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U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

THE EYE

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WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

APR 7 1928

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. April 6, 1928.

We are having rather an early spring in the Greeley district this year. We enjoyed a very open winter this year. We had some very cold weather but very little snow fell. As a result, the soil is quite dry and very much in need of moisture at the present time. However, we quite frequently have heavy snows during the month of April and it is quite possible that the needed moisture will be supplied either from rain or snow.

It is difficult to estimate at this time the acreage that will be planted with potatoes this year. The amount of acreage planted to potatoes varies somewhat from year to year and depends to some extent on the acreage of sugar beets. The acreage of sugar beets to be planted this year is very uncertain at the present time. This is due to the fact that the Beet Growers Association and the Great Western Sugar Company have locked horns on the 1928 beet contract. It is reported that about 45% of the beet growers of this section belong to the Association and the members of this Association are not allowed to grow beets unless permitted to do so by the Association. It is quite possible that if the Association does not accept the Great Western Sugar Company's contract for its members, it may release the members to sign contracts if they so desire. If an agreement is not reached, it is quite possible that there will be a considerable increase in the amount of acres planted to potatoes. Of course, some of these growers have already planted spring wheat instead of beets and some will, no doubt, plant beans.

We finished planting barley and alfalfa last week. A very good stand of alfalfa was secured last year by cross drilling the alfalfa after the nurse crop had been seeded, and using a double disk press drill. It is believed that this method is superior to broadcasting the alfalfa seed at the time the nurse crop is seeded. Many farmers are already plowing the ground for potatoes. Potato ground is not generally prepared in this section for the late crop until about the first of May or later. It is believed that possibly owing to the dry condition of the soil that many of the growers are advancing the date of plowing. Many growers in this district are preparing to treat their seed potatoes this spring with organic mercury compound. It is reported that practically every grower of early potatoes in the Gilcrest section has purchased this material for treating. It is hoped that the farmers will be well repaid for the money and labor involved.

Some dealers report that there are about 700 cars of potatoes left in the district while others claim that 600 is nearer correct. The potato market was quite sluggish last week but dealers were expecting to see a stronger market shortly; they have been paying $1.40 to $1.50 per cwt. for U. S. Grade No.1.

(W. C. Edmundson).

Presque Isle, Me. Notes. April 6, 1928.

The writer arrived in Presque Isle, Me. Friday morning. Although it was rather cool the snow was melting and on the whole it was a typical spring day. Friday night it began showing and continued until Saturday night. There is now considerable more snow than usual in the county for this time of the year.

At Aroostook Farm nothing unusual was found. We found the water system O. K. and soon had the boiler and heating system in operation. Saturday it was found necessary to replace the flue pipe leading from the boiler to the chimney.

Stock in the storage house is in excellent condition. In working 80 barrels of Green Mountains this afternoon only 3 pecks were discarded and only a part of it was rot.

The market is not very active, a few buyers are offering $3.25 per barrel to the farmers today.

(P. M. Lombard).

Washington, D. C. Notes. April 6, 1928.

Another season's issue of "The Eye" has begun and the writer wishes to remind the readers of this weekly publication that its success in 1928 is directly dependent on the cooperation received in the way of interesting news items. As in the past we invite you to cecome regular contributors to its pages.

Crop acreage- All indications point to an increased acreage this season. If the growers carry out their expressed intentions there is every likelihood of a larger crop being produced than can be profitably disposed of. This is a year when the grower should give careful thought to his acreage. It would seem to be a time when there should be little, if any, expansion of acreage but rather to giving careful attention to the securing of larger yields per acre at a minimum cost consistent with maximum production. Good seed should be one of the major considerations. The selection of soil adapted to the potato, plowing it as deeply as possible, fitting it in the best possible manner for the reception of the seed, the use of a liberal quantity of commercial fertilizer, good tillage, thorough spraying, etc., should be the slogan this season. In fact no operation that will tend to the development of a maximum crop should be neglected. Briefly stated the grower should aim to produce maximum yields at a minimum cost per bushel.

Market news- The potato market seems to be in a sluggish condition. In fact there has been a considerable drop in prices during the past 3 or 4 weeks. The question in every grower's mind today, who still has a part of his crop to dispose of, is as to whether the market will recover from its present sluggishness with a consequent advance in price

So far as it has come to our attention the general conditions of the seed stock is good and as a rule the stand is good in the Southern States.

Potato tour- The Louisiana State University Extension Division has perfected plans for their sixth annual potato tour which is scheduled for April 17 to 20. The itinerary, as at present outlined, includes inspection of potato fields in the vicinity of Raceland, Lockport, Upper Lafourche, Thibodaux and Houma on Tuesday; Wednesday will be devoted to the inspection of fields in Terrebonne Parish; Thursday will be spent in the vicinity of the Gulf of Mexico, while on Friday an opportunity is to be given of making a comparative study of the relative performance of Montana, Nebraska and North Dakota Triumph certified seed in Iberia Parish.

The potato stands are reported to be good and the plants are in a vigorous growing condition.

(Wm. Stuart).

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T H E E Y E

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WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

APR 14 1928

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. April 9, 1928.

The weather during the past week has been quite cold, with occasional flurries of snow.

We have been plowing our potato ground this week. The soil is very dry and considerable moisture will be needed before a good seed bed can be prepared. If we have an ordinary amount of spring rain, we will be able to put the ground in good condition before planting time.

The sugar beet question is still unsettled. In some sections, some growers are asking the Beet Growers Association to release them from their contract so that they can grow beets this year under the contract offered by the Great Western Sugar Company. Other growers are willing to stand by the Association and not grow beets unless an agreement can be reached. Some beet growers are planting their crop at the present time.

The potato growers of the Gilcrest section, south of Greeley, are now planting their early crop. The varieties planted in this section are Cobblers, Triumphs and Early Ohio. While the Early Ohio does not produce as large yields as the Cobbler and Triumph, it matures a week or two earlier and some growers like to take advantage of the early market. The Cobbler in this section also develops about ten days to two weeks in advance of the Triumph. Quite frequently the early plants are injured by freezing and potatoes planted from the 15th to the 20th of April, are often better.

The potato market has been very dull during the past week. In fact there have been too few sales made to establish a market. Some dealers say that the market is $1.10 to $1.15 while others claim the market should be $1.25 per cwt.

(W. C. Edmundson)

Presque Isle, Me. Notes. April 10, 1928

The weather continued warm up to Sunday. Saturday night we had rain followed by colder weather. Monday and today it has been real cold with a little snow Monday night.

We are making good progress in our spring work on Aroostook Farm. We shall finish treating the seedling stock today. Part of the seedling orders for testing have been shipped, the balance will go out this week.

The market which has been sliding since the writer arrived in Maine reached $2.50 Friday; yesterday a few were purchased for $3.00 per bbl., bulk, f. o. b. On the whole the market is very quiet.

(P. M. Lombard).

Arlington Farm Notes. April 12, 1928.

On April 4, 5, and 6 the writer assisted Mr. Bailey E. Brown, Office of Soil Fertility, Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, and R. C. Wright of the Storage and Transportation Project, of this office, in planting cooperative potato experiments.

The soil was in excellent condition for planting. The air temperature was so high that it reminded one of summer weather instead of the first of April.

Only early maturing varieties were planted this spring because even such varieties requiring no longer time to mature than Green Mountains have failed to produce a crop in previous years when planted early. This failure is due to the high temperature when the tubers are developing.

(Walter M. Peacock)

Washington, D. C. Notes. April 12, 1928

A heavy rain Saturday evening was followed by a bright Easter day since which time the weather has been cloudy and cool with some rain and snow Tuesday morning and a torrential rain Wednesday afternoon and evening. Today (Thursday) has been warmer with bright sunshine during the early part of the day with increasing cloudiness in the afternoon.

Little information has come to hand during the week concerning the condition of the potato crop in the South except that contained in a recent mimeographed sheet issued by the United States Department of Agriculture Crop Reporting Board on early potatoes. According to the Board the average condition of the early potato crop in the states of North and South Carolina, Georgia, Florida, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas on April 1 was 80.1 per cent as compared with 80.5 per cent on the same date in 1927, and 76 per cent in 1926.

An interesting item is noted in the April 4 issue of the University of Nebraska Agricultural College Extension Notes. In this article mention was made of the treatment of Triumph seed potatoes harvested in Kimball County on September 26. The treatment was made at Lincoln on October 3 and the stock shipped by express to New York, thence by boat to Bermuda. On November 3, or exactly 31 days after treatment, or 39 from the time of harvesting the crop, 90 per cent of the potato plants had emerged through the ground in Bermuda potato fields.

Another interesting article was recently noted in the April number of the Monroe County (N. Y.) Farm and Home Bureau News relative to plans formulated for treating seed potatoes by the hot corrosive sublimate solution method. Some 22,000 bushels distributed among 15 groups have been listed for treatment. The Farm Bureau is to build the vat, provide the equipment and two qualified men to test the solution, check temperatures and organize the work at each place, arrange for steam and schedule the dates. A similar service was rendered last season at a cost of five and a quarter cents per bushel. The cost of treating the seed this season is to be fixed at 10 cents per bushel which will be collected at the time of

treatment. It is planned to figure the actual cost of treatment for each group of growers separately, and to rebate to each grower whatever excess may have been charged over and above actual cost.

Marketing News.- Little, if any, change is noted in market quotations. The market is still sluggish with little demand. A comparison of present prices at Idaho Falls with those prevailing in the early part of the shipping season indicates they have almost receded to the late fall and early winter prices. The carlot movement has not been heavy enough for the past two weeks to fully explain the sluggishness of the market except on the basis of large holdings at terminal points which are being distributed to the trade in connection with newly arriving shipments.

The reported carlot movements for the past five days, exclusive of Sunday, April 5 to 10 were 624, 491, 488, 427, and 570 respectively.

(Wm. Stuart).

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APR 21 1928
U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE

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WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

APR 21 1928

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. April 16, 1928.

The weather during the past week has been very cold. One night the mercury dropped to twelve above zero. The dry weather continues to a point where it is becoming quite serious. We have had much windy weather and the top soil has become very dry. The young grain is quite yellow at the present time, due to cold weather. This grain will probably be somewhat stunted but grain in this condition usually assumes a normal color in a short time under very favorable conditions. Some of the young alfalfa has been killed but the total extent of the killing is not known at the present time.

The sugar beet situation remains unchanged at the present, although there is some indication that matters will be cleared up very soon. A court suit has been filed by some of the Association beet growers of Sterling, Colo., who are seeking to be released from the Association. It is reported that a ballot has been sent out by the growers of the Association, calling for a vote of the members as to whether or not they wished to be released to grow beets at the price offered by the Great Western Sugar Company. It is believed that after this vote is taken we will know definitely whether there are any of the Association members who will grow beets this year.

The Idaho automobile license this year advertises Idaho potatoes. It is quite a novel way of advertising the potato. A large potato is embossed in the license plate and the potato is painted brown. It has been suggested that Colorado advertise some of its farm products in this way but up to the present time nothing has been done of this nature.

A large percentage of the early potato crop of this district has been planted and it is believed that the remaining acreage will be planted this week.

The potato market has been rather dull during the past week and very few shipments have been made.

(W. C. Edmundson)

Presque Isle, Me. Notes. April 17, 1928.

The weather has been very cold since the last report. The ground has remained frozen since Sunday night.

The market still remains sluggish and dealers are reluctant to offer $2.25 per barrel f. o. b. in bulk for Green Mountains. Good Green Mountain seed stock is in demand both outside and locally. Irish Cobblers for table stock are slow at $2.50 per barrel f. o. b. with little demand for seed.

We are hauling our fertilizer this week to the farm from the Higgins Fertilizer Company in town. The roads are so rough it is hardly possible to use a truck.

About all of the spring orders have gone out either by freight or express. An order from Dr. Freeman Weiss is being held ready for shipment about May 10.

None of the experimental staff from the Maine Station have arrived to date but Dr. Oven is expected this week. Dr. E. S. Schultz writes that he will not be in Presque Isle. much before May 1.

(P. M. Lombard).

Presque Isle, Me. Notes. April 11, 1928.

Since arriving in Presque Isle the writer has been busy with the potato breeding work. The potato seed was planted in the greenhouse about a week ago. The plants are now beginning to come up and the indications are that a good germination will be secured.

Tubers of over 500 seedling varieties which have been developed in former years have been kept in storage during the winter. These are being treated and put up for planting.

With the exception of the past two days the weather has been warm for this time of the year so that the snow has melted very rapidly. The fields are now nearly bare except where there are drifts.

While it is a little early to draw definite conclusions regarding the acreage to be planted in this section this season the general opinion seems to be that there will be a slight increase over that of last year. (These notes were received too late for last week's issue of "The Eye.").

(C. F. Clark).

Washington, D. C. Notes. April 20, 1928.

The prevailing weather for the past week has been mostly cloudy and cool, accompanied by frost and frozen ground a few mornings.

Potatoes planted two weeks ago at Arlington Farm scarcely show any growth development since planting. On the other hand all the seed pieces that were examined Tuesday were firm and sound.

Mr. C. W. Waid, Chief of Markets, Columbus, Ohio, called at the office yesterday and today.

(Walter M. Peacock).

Louisiana Notes. April 18, 1928.

The New Orleans conference called for the purpose of organizing an All-Southern Certified Triumph Seed Purchasing Pool, which was held on April 16, was unusually well attended. Many representatives were present from Northern certified Triumph seed producing states. The states represented were Montana, Nebraska, North Dakota, Minnesota and Wisconsin. The Southern States represented were South Carolina, Mississippi, Alabama, Louisiana, Texas, Oklahoma and Arkansas. Satisfactory progress was made in the organization of the Pool and in addition a Southern Potato Improvement Association was also formed. The officers elected in the latter organization were as follows:- G. L. Tiebout, President; D. C. Mooring, Vice President and Julian Brown, Secretary-Treasurer.

On the following day those in attendance at the conference joined the Louisiana Potato Tour at Raceland Junction and proceeded to inspect potato fields in LaFourche Parish planted with Triumph seed from several Northern States. Fertilizer tests and hot formaldehyde treatment were noted on the Bowie Lumber Company Plantation at Raceland Junction. Nebraska, Wisconsin and Dakota "Bill Spuds" were studied on the Godchaux plantation as well as hot formaldehyde treatment. A 30,000 bushel planting of Montana and Nebraska seed was next studied on the Scollay plantation, operated under the supervision of Robert Morrison. Fertilizer tests, seed treatments and large size seed piece plantings were studied here. On some of the cuts of land as much as 26 bushels of seed was planted per acre. This amount is a striking departure from the usual practice in this section.

All fields visited during the day's tour gave promise of making satisfactory yields.

(Wm. Stuart).

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MAY 5 1930
U.S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE
PLANT INDUSTRY

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WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

APR 29 1926

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. April 23, 1928.

Saturday snow fell most of the day. The snow was quite heavy and .47 of an inch was recorded at the station. As stated in previous notes for the Eye, this section of the country was very badly in need of moisture and this snow has been of great benefit to practically all crops, especially to beets, small grain and young alfalfa. It is feared however, that most of the young alfalfa at the station was already killed because of lack of moisture.

Today we are harrowing our potato ground. We expect to harrow it twice within the next few days and probably disk and harrow again before planting time.

The sugar beet question is supposed to be settled at this time. According to a vote taken of the Beet Growers Association members, the directors will not release any of the Association members to grow sugar beets at the price offered by the Great Western Sugar Company. It is feared that considerable acreage that would have been planted with beets will now be planted with potatoes.

The potato market has been very dull during the past week, in fact too few sales have been made to establish a market price.

(W. C. Edmundson)

Presque Isle Notes. April 24, 1928

The weather has remained cold, cloudy with several snow squalls. Today we are having a real blizzard. It has snowed hard all day accompanied by high winds.

The work on Aroostook Farm is progressing very satisfactorily. We have not begun cutting seed as yet, other than for the 'cutting experiment". We still have some more seed to treat and considerable stock to work over.

The market apparently is daily getting weaker in this section. Green Mountain table stock in bulk is worth only $2.00 per bbl. f.o.b.

(P. M. Lombard)

Washington, D. C. Notes April 27, 1928.

The prevailing weather for the week has been unusually cool with a small amount of relative sunshine for the season and accompanied by a few showers. Rain is predicted for today and tonight.

Besides compiling potato storage data on cut seed, the writer has been taking daily germination notes on the influence of fertilizer on fresh cut and corked over cut seed potatoes at Arlington Experimental Farm, Va.

Today, the writer is cooperating with Dr. Freeman Weiss in taking notes on an experiment in Arlington Cold Storage, Arlington Experiment Farm, Va.

(Walter M. Peacock)

Holmdel, Monmouth County, N. J. Notes. April 17, 1928

Most of the farmers finished planting their potato seed today. The job would have been finished before the 15th of the month but for a heavy rain last week. On the whole the crop has gone into the ground under A-1 conditions. Excepting two days of summer heat the weather has been ideal for potatoes and the soil conditions favorable. The seed put in the ground on the first day seems bright and sound so the prospect for a crop is all that could be desired. Most of the seed planted was certified Irish Cobbler from Prince Edward Island. Of course there was some from Maine, Vermont and New York State, also some second crop Irish Cobbler seed from Virginia and Maryland. There was practically no certified seed from South Jersey for sale but a few of the seed dealers sold considerable uncertified South Jersey seed. More seed was treated with Semesan or Dip Dust this season than ever before.

One interesting experiment in Irish Cobbler potato seed is being made in Holmdel township. Last summer one farmer planted 20 barrels of certified Prince Edward Island seed the last week in July and obtained 140 barrels of second crop seed. This spring he arranged with 22 of his neighbors in the township to take from one to three bags of the home grown second crop seed in exchange for whatever seed the neighbors had bought, mostly Prince Edward Island Cobblers. The seed grower treated his second crop seed and put it into new bags before delivering it to his 22 neighbors.

The two row planters drawn by tractors with high extended (2 row) wheels came into use in Monmouth County this season and proved a great success. By keeping the planter moving 60 barrels a day could be planted.

(Theron McCampbell).

Louisiana Notes. April 21, 1928

The potato tour in Terrebonne Parish on Wednesday April 18 was interesting from several angles. The crop was somewhat more advanced and a larger number of individual growers seem to be interested in early crop potato production. Nebraska state certified seed is predominant in this section. R. J. Yoniger on Bayou Cane had 50 acres planted with Nebraska Triumph. This acreage had been planted with 424 bushels or an average of approximately 8.5 bu. per acre. The land had received a 400 lbs. per acre application of a 4-8-4 fertilizer. In order to correctly understand the rate of seedage and commercial fertilizer application it is necessary to state that the usual row spacing is from 5 to 6 ft. In this particular instance and that of the two succeeding farms or plantations visited the rows were spaced 5½ ft. apart. On the A. M. & J. C. Dupont plantation Nebraska seed had been used which had been treated with hot formaldehyde and fertilized at the rate of 600 lbs. per acre or an amount equal to 1,100 lbs. with rows 3 ft. apart. The Palmer Bros. at Schriever have 140 acres of potatoes. The seed used had been treated in a cold formaldehyde solution and the land had received 400 lbs. superphosphate and 200 lbs. sulfate of ammonia at time of planting plus a side dressing of 100 lbs. per acre of sulfate of ammonia. R. V. Daspit on Bayou Blue had 22 acres planted with Nebraska seed. Six foot rows were noted on tract operated by Fred LeBlanc on Coteau Farm. Allen Ellender had a 21 acre comparative test of 3½, 4 and 5 ft. row spacing of which 13 acres had been fertilized with 300 lbs. shrimp meal, 300 lbs. superphosphate at time of planting and a 125 lbs. application of sulfate of ammonia as a side dressing. The remaining 8 acres were fertilized with a 600 lbs. per acre application of a 4-10-7 fertilizer at planting and 125 lbs. sulfate of ammonia as a side dressing. Most of the Ellender potato acreage had a larger vine growth and gave promise of a heavier yield than any other plantings noted on the trip. On the Brier Patch Farms, also operated by Allen Ellender there were 18 acres planted in 5 and 4 ft. rows. Mr. Ellender is attempting to determine the best and most economical spacing between rows in order to produce the largest yield of No. 1 tubers. J. G. Duplantis and Justin Martin have 110 acres of excellent potatoes in one block. This acreage as well as that of Mr. Ellenders had been planted with Nebraska certified Triumph seed. Ninety of the 110 acres had been planted at the rate of 6 bushels of seed per acre and a 500 lbs. per acre application of commercial fertilizer while on the remaining 20 acres 4 bushels of seed potatoes and 400 lbs. commercial fertilizer had been used per acre. The rows were spaced 6 ft. apart. Fifty acres of excellent potatoes were next inspected on the farm of Willis Pellegrin. Notwithstanding that Mr. Pellegrin has only been in the potato game two seasons and that his operations are being conducted on worn out sugar cane lands his crop was almost if not quite on par

with any seen during the trip. This showing has been made possible through the use of legume cover crops. T. Baker Smith's 55 acre potato patch was the last one visited during the day and concluded the duties of an award committee selected during the earlier part of the day to pass upon the relative merits of the potato acreage of four growers whose crop had been entered in a competition to determine who would be entitled to be crowned the "Potato King' of Terrebonne Parish. The award was made on the basis of spacing; physical and mechanical condition of the soil; cultural care, apparent vigor of plants and uniformity of plants. On this basis Mr. Allen Ellender was adjudged "Potato King" but he had by no means a distinctly clear field as he was closely pressed by J. C. Duplantis, J. Martin and Willis Pellegrin. The determining factor in favor of Mr. Ellender being his closer row spacing which the committee felt was a desirable practice.

Thursday was devoted to an outing by boat to Grand Pass and a seafood picnic dinner and in travelling from Houma to New Iberia in order to participate in the following day's tour in Iberia Parish. The first field visited on Friday was that of Robert S. Pesson, a young wide-awake farmer of New Iberia who is combining potato growing with dairying. His 32 acres of potatoes planted with Montana and Nebraska Triumph seed stock showed ample evidence of the value of barnyard manure on land more or less deficient in organic matter. Mr. Pesson had applied 10 tons of manure and 325 lbs. each of superphosphate and sulfate of ammonia per acre in addition to having turned under a crop of soybeans the previous fall. Closer spacing of rows is also being practiced. C. V. Riggs of New Iberia has 12 acres planted with Montana and Nebraska seed. A soybean crop had been turned under last fall. The potato crop had received a side dressing of 200 lbs. each of nitrate of soda and superphosphate. Louis Pesson has 10 acres planted with Montana, North Dakota and home grown seed. Albert Landry and Robert Landry of Jeanerette each has 9 acres. The first used Montana and North Dakota seed while the latter used only Montana seed. Both growers used barnyard manure and commercial fertilizers and had turned under a crop of soy beans. Leon J. Landry of New Iberia has 23 acres planted with Montana seed. A crop of soybeans had been turned under in the fall and an application of 200 lbs. each of nitrate of soda and superphosphate before planting.

General Observations: The south Louisiana potato acreage is on the increase. As a rule the growers are using certified seed but there are still a few unconverted growers who are willing to take a chance on uncertified stock or who are not as yet convinced that the price difference is justified. The potato crop in the parishes visited is vastly better than in 1927. In fact it gives promise of good yields. A keener rivalry is noted among the growers to excel in

production. The influence of the extension staff of the Louisiana State University is becoming more and more evident and the good work begun and followed up by its pioneer G. L. Tiebout is a forceful illustration of what may be accomplished by persistent effort along definite lines. Acknowledgment is also due to the efficient and enthusiastic leadership of county agents V. A. Guidroz, Fred Ricard and R. V. St. Disier and also to Mr. Hull of L. S. U. who has so ably conducted each annual potato tour.

(Wm. Stuart)

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MAY 7 1928
PLANT INDUSTRY

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WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

MAY 5 1928

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. April 30, 1928.

During the first part of the week the temperature was below normal for this time of the year. Wednesday, five or six inches of snow fell from which .38 of an inch of moisture was recorded at the station. During the latter part of the week the temperature has been quite favorable for growing conditions.

The potato ground was harrowed again this week and the soil now contains good moisture. We planted four or five rows of potatoes today. The soil at the station is not particularly adapted to growing early potatoes and very few are planted.

A large acreage of old alfalfa and also young alfalfa died during the winter. The cause of this has been studied by numerous people including several from the Colorado Agricultural College and in most instances it is reported that death has been due to winter killing. Bacterial root rot does considerable damage in this section every year to two or three year old alfalfa but those who have investigated the alfalfa fields this year, are confident that the larger percentage of the injury is due to winter killing, possibly as a result of a dry open winter.

The potato market has been very weak during the past week. Very few sales have been made. Dealers have been offering from seventy to eighty cents per cwt. and are not apparently anxious to purchase at that price.

(W. C. Edmundson).

Presque Isle, Me. Notes. May 1, 1928.

The weather in this section continues bad. The temperature has been considerably higher during the past week with an abundance of rain. It has not been possible to do any work in the field to date.

We began cutting seed on Aroostook Farm Monday. This work should be nearly completed by the last of the week.

The potato market remains quiet but the farmers are receiving a little better price, some dealers paying as high as $2.50 per barrel in bulk for U. S. Grade No. 1.

(P. M. Lombard).

Arlington Farm, Va. Notes. May 3, 1928.

A heavy rainfall amounting to nearly 2 inches was recorded the end of last week. The temperature at times during the storm dropped to almost the freezing point. Some snow fell but melted immediately. In the western part of Virginia and Maryland a heavy snowstorm was reported, amounting to a foot or more in depth of heavy wet snow. The rapid melting of this snow along the Potomac River and its tributaries has caused a rapid rise in

the river here. For a time yesterday it looked as if the "flats" of Arlington Experimental Farm where our potato experiments are planted might be flooded as in May 7, 8, and 9, 1924 when the potato experiments were under from 2 to 4 feet of water.

The writer has been taking daily notes on an experiment in the greenhouse during the past week and also cooperating with Dr. Freeman Weiss in trying to determine why sprout tubers develop. In the meantime he has been working on experimental data.

The field experiments are beginning to come up. All indications point to a good germination.

The Washington potato market was very dull this morning. New potatoes, U. S. Grade #1, were being offered at $4.00 per barrel. The demand was weal even at this price. It was stated that the price may drop to $3.50 this afternoon. This condition does not picture a very bright outlook with a 16.6 per cent increase in acreage over last year in the following early potato states,- Alabama, California, Georgia, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carlina, Texas (other than Texas, L. Valley) and Virginia. If growers farther north carry out their intentions to increase their acreage and favorable growing conditions prevail, prices of potatoes are liable to be very low throughout the year. Those who have not yet planted and intend to increase their acreage had better think twice before carrying out their intentions. The demand for potato starch is not strong enough to warrant a profitable price for potatoes to convert into starch.

(Walter M. Peacock).

Mississippi Notes. May 4, 1928.

Saturday, April 21, was spent in studying the early potato crop in Pearl River County, Mississippi. A number of commercial potato fields in the vicinity of Picayune were inspected. Most of them were of the Triumph variety. A small acreage had been planted with Irish Cobbler and were apparently going to prove as satisfactory as the Triumph. An experimental potato plot was studied on the branch station of the Agricultural Experiment Station at Poplarville. Certified seed from several sources were being compared with each other and also with uncertified seed. One lot of uncertified Triumph seed purchased from a local dealer showed a very high percentage of mosaic. In some instances certified seed was showing a much higher percentage of mosaic than it should. These experimental studies are being carried on by Mr. Wedgeworth and Mr. Anderson of the State College of Agriculture and are designed to furnish information concerning best source of seed stock. Some fertilizer studies are also being conducted.

A similar study was made of potato fields in Marion County on Monday. The oldest developed commercial potato producing section in Marion County is some 10 to 12 miles from Columbia, but it is unlikely that any great development along this line will occur unless the present roads leading into the potato section are vastly improved. A 10 to 12 mule potato haul over half of which mileage is not improve, is a serious handicap to overcome.

Some fairly good fields were noticed during the day's inspection trip. The following day was spent in Pike County. Somewhat more favorable conditions for the development of a real early potato crop may be expected from than Marion County. Some wideawake growers were encountered and it was apparent from the discussion that these men were desirous of securing good seed.

Several potato fields were inspected in Yazoo County on Wednesday. A very large proportion of them had been planted with Wisconsin and Minnesota certified Triumph seed potatoes. In practically every field planted with either of these two sources of seed there was a much larger percentage of mosaic than the tolerance allowed in the seed certification standards of these two states. This simply indicates the necessity for as low a tolerance as possible in the northern seed producing sections and also the desirability of having some scheme of identification on the tag so as to make it possible to trace the source of the seed stock.

General Observations- The potato crop in Mississippi is not as far advanced as in Louisiana. As a rule the row spacing is more nearly like that practiced by Northern growers. Owing to rolling land better drainage conditions were observed in Mississippi than in Louisiana. Pearl River County seems to offer the better opportunity for commercial potato production. A sufficient number of good fields were noted to indicate the feasibility of growing potatoes profitably, at least so far as yield is concerned.

(Wm. Stuart).

MAY 21 1928
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WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

MAY 12 1928

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. May 7, 1928.

Wednesday, April 2, .67 of an inch of rain fell, while on April 3, .08 of an inch was recorded at the station. There is now sufficient moisture in the soil to afford good growing conditions and practically all crops look well at the present time. It is reported that there is sufficient snow in the mountains to assure us of plenty of late irrigation water.

We began disking the potato ground this morning, following each one-half day with the harrow. This operation is putting the ground in a fine physical condition and it is believed will assure us of a good seed bed. It is planned now to start planting about May 21.

The potato market has been very dull during the past week. Dealers are offering but .65 to .75 cents per cwt. for U. S. Grade No. 1.

(W. C. Edmundson)

Presque Isle, Me. Notes. May 7, 1928

We have finished potting the seedling potatoes in the greenhouse with the exception of a few plants which are still too small. The total number potted up to the present time is 4690. Most of these are from seed obtained by crossing some of our most promising seedling varieties. There are, however, a few lots of wild species also some first generation hybrids which have been obtained from crosses between certain of these species.

Through the kindness of Mr. S. Bukasov of the Institute of Applied Botany, Leningrad, U. S. S. R., we have recently been furnished with three additional wild tuber-bearing species,- S. cardiphyllum, S. ajuscoense and S. antipovichi, the two last named being new species, also three forms of S. demissum.

(J. F. Clark).

Riverhead, (L.I.) N. Y. May 3, 1928

Potato planting was completed in Suffolk County more than a week ago. Although there are no definite figures available, there is substantial evidence that the acreage is slightly larger than that of 1927. Irish Cobbler planting was begun in the Orient section the week of March 20. Following this fairly early start, relatively dry weather permitted planting to proceed at a rapid pace. Not until April 20, after the major part of the crop was planted did we have any heavy rains. The dry condition of the soil prior to the heavy rains prompted many growers to halt their plantings, believing that a better moisture contact with the seed piece might result.

Two Cobbler seed source tests containing 21 strains from Prince Edward Island, Vermont, Maine and New York, and 4 Green Mountain strain tests containing 26 strains from Prince Edward Island, Maine, Vermont, New York and Wisconsin, have been planted and these plots will be subject to inspection by those attending the Eleventh Annual Tour the latter part of June.

The Farm Bureau in cooperation with Dr. Clayton of the Long Island Vegetable Research Farm has located 27 seed treatment demonstrations and experiments in the various potato sections. Semesan bel and Bayer Dip are the products used in these tests. The 27 tests include 560 bushels of seed representing approximately 35 acres.

Work will also be carried on this year to gain more light on the problem and feasibility of controlling aphids and leaf hoppers.

(E. S. Foster)
(County Agent)

Nebraska Notes. May 11, 1928

An interesting monthly publication entitled "Nebraska Potatoes" has recently come to our attention. The first issue appeared in February. It consists of mimeographed sheets with cover page. The cover page is typed so as to present the same appearance as a regular bulletin cover page, the sheets and cover page being stapled and folded so as to convey the impression of a regular bulletin. "Nebraska Potatoes" is edited by Messrs. Werner and Goss. The February issue is devoted to (1) A report of the Potato Association of America's annual meeting at Nashville, Tenn.; (2) The meeting of the Nebraska Potato Improvement Association at Sidney, Nebr., Dec. 7-9, 1927; (3) The Potato Association meeting at Lincoln, Nebr., and to a statement that the 1927 Nebraska certified seed potatoes were practically all sold. About 300 carloads were sold to Southern potato growers.

The March number is devoted to a discussion of the following subjects:- (1) The 1928 potato acreage; (2) Seed treatments decrease scab in western Nebraska; (3) Proposed investional work on scab and fusarium wilt; (4) Super lots of seed potatoes from tuber-index work; (5) Speeding up Nebraska potatoes. Triumph potatoes were harvested in Kimball County, Nebr. on September 26, treated with ethylene chlorhydrin at Lincoln, Nebr., Oct. 3, shipped by express and boat at Bermuda and immediately planted. On November 3, or 5 weeks after harvesting in western Nebraska, 90 per cent of the treated seed had plants through the ground in the Bermuda plots, as compared with 24 per cent from the untreated seed.

The April issue discusses:- (1) Mild mosaic and spindle-tuber spread by cutting knife; (2) How about cutting potatoes in April for June planting?; (3) The Nebraska 400-bushel club. The requirements for membership are that the grower must produce an average yield of 400 bushels per acre on a five-acre field; pay an entry fee of $1.00; keep a record of production costs;

(4)Mississippi makes ruling on certified seed, prohibiting use of terms certified or inspected on tags affixed to potato sacks, unless they have been inspected and certified by the legally constituted inspection officials of the state in which they are grown, or by such other agencies as may be approved by the State Plant Board of Mississippi; (5) The Louisiana potato tour; (6) Nebraska potatoes and the Florida Everglades; (7) The Hastings Potato Growers Association.

"Nebraska Potatoes" is published cooperatively by the Nebraska Potato Improvement Association and the Agricultural College and Extension Service, Lincoln, Nebr.

(Wm. Stuart).

Oklahoma Notes. May 11, 1928.

Announcement of Oklahoma's Third Annual Potato Tour has recently been received. The date set is May 29 to June 8. The program of the tour was prepared by D. C. Mooring, Orchard and Garden Specialist of the Extension Division. The announcement states that the object of the tour is threefold as follows:- (1) To obtain information as to results obtained from potatoes grown from seed of different sources. (2) Visible results of crop rotation. (3) Results of commercial fertilizers, diseases, etc.

Tuesday forenoon, May 29, is to be spent in Marshall County and the afternoon in Johnson County. Bryan County potato fields are to be inspected on Wednesday and those in McCurtain County on Thursday. Choctaw County potato fields are to be visited on June 1 and Pushmataha County fields on Saturday. Potato fields in Atoka and Coal Counties are to be examined on Monday and those of McIntosh and Pittsburg Counties on Tuesday, June 5. Poteau, LeFlore and Sequoah County potato fields will be inspected on Wednesday, and those in Muskogee and Wagoner Counties on Thursday and Friday, winding up with a banquet, given by the Oklahoma Potato Growers' Association at Severs Hotel, Muskogee on Friday evening, June 7. Out-of-state visitors are invited to spend Saturday, June 9, inspecting the Agricultural College and Experiment Station at Stillwater.

(Wm. Stuart).

Washington, D. C. Notes. May 11, 1928.

During the past week the weather has been as coolas the previous one was hot. The precipitation on the 9th was 1.10 inches and on the 10th, 0.21 inches. The soil is now well supplied with moisture and with favorable temperatures the early potato crop, which is now well emerged, should make rapid growth. Thursday and Friday of this week have more nearly resembled May weather than the five preceding ones.

Potato shipments- The carlot shipments May 4, 5, 7 and 8 were 923, 889, 499 and 657. The apparent falling off in shipments are probably not as real as the figures seem to indicate as carlot shipments are always lighter the first of the week. Analysis of these figures show that on Friday, May 4, 351 of the 923 cars reported were new potatoes from Florida, Louisiana and Texas, while on Saturday 232 of the 889 cars moved were new stock. On Monday and Tuesday, May 7 and 8, the shipments included 49 and 123 cars of new potatoes.

Prices- The Market News Service Report on May 8 indicates a gradual decline in prices. U. S. No.1 sacked Triumphs at Brownsville, Texas were bringing $2.25 to $2.50, mostly $2.25 f. o. b. cash track. Double headed barrels of U. S. No. 1 Spaulding Rose were quoted at Hastings, Fla. at $4.00 per barrel, while No. 2's were mostly selling at $2.25 with a few lower. At Idaho Falls, Idaho, sacked U. S. No.1 Russet Burbanks were being sold for 60¢ to 65¢, while No. 2's were quoted at 40 to 45¢ per sack. Quotations on sacked, round whites at Stevens Point, Wis. were mostly on the basis of $1.35 per cwt. At Presque Isle, Me. a few sales of bulk Green Mountains U. S. No. 1 were made at 95¢ to $1.00 per cwt.

(Wm. Stuart).

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WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

MAY 19 1928

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. May 14, 1928.

The weather during the past week has been cool and cloudy with some rain. Thursday, .48 of an inch of rain fell and Friday, .05 of an inch was recorded at the station and today rain is falling again. The weather has gone to extremes this spring. The early spring weather was very dry with no snow or rain but during the last two weeks we have had considerable rain and cloudy weather. The crops are looking well but everyone is now desirous of seeing the weather clear so that farming activities can be continued.

Yesterday, the writer visited the Gilcrest section south of Greeley. This particular section of the Greeley district is devoted to early potatoes and a considerable acreage of early potatoes are planted every year. It is believed that the early plantings have been increased this year. Many of the fields are just now beginning to germinate and it is too early to ascertain how good a stand has been secured but the weather has been fairly favorable for potato growth and it is believed that in most fields the stand is good.

We are planning to float our potato ground this week and to begin planting about the 21st or 22nd.

The potato market has been very dull during the past week, dealers offering but 50 to 60 cents per cwt. for U. S. Grade No 1.

(W. C. Edmundson).

Presque Isle, Maine Notes. May 8, 1928.

The weather for the past week has been fair but rather cool. Some work has been done on the land but very few potatoes have been planted to date. Some grain has been sown and the high well drained land has been fitted for potatoes.

We have plowed an isolated plot on an adjoining farm for our tuber index Cobblers and plan to begin planting Friday morning. The plots on Aroostook Farm will be fitted this week and our experimental plots will be planted next week.

The potato market is very dull, buyers are offering $1.60 per barrel bulk this week for U. S. Grade No. 1, Green Mountains.

(P. M. Lombard).

(These notes arrived too late for last week's issue).

Presque Isle, Maine Notes. May 15, 1928

The weather for the past week has been exceptionally good and potato planting is well advanced. Saturday night it rained turning very cold. We have had rather severe frosts about every night.

Friday and Saturday the tuber index selections of Irish Cobbler were planted on the Andas farm. Monday we began planting the older lots of seedlings finishing today, in addition to planting the variety collection and selections for scientific studies. The old vs. fresh cut seed will be planted tomorrow and the seedlings for increase work.

The market remains rather dull with the price still at $1.50 per barrel in bulk for Green Mountains.

(P. M. Lombard).

Arlington Farm, Va. Notes. May 18, 1928

During the week the weather has varied from a light frost being observed in the vicinity a couple of mornings to that of a hot summer day with slight precipitation. The cool spring has caused a slow germination as well as a slow development of the plants.

On Tuesday, Mr. Bailey E. Brown, Dr. Lon A. Hawkins, Dr. Oswald Schreiner, Dr. Wm. Stuart, Messrs. W. H. White, R. C. Wright and the writer inspected the potato experiments both in the greenhouse and in the field.

Germination notes have been taken twice during the week and photographs of some of the outstanding results have been made.

(Walter M. Peacock).

Washington, D. C. Notes. May 18, 1928.

The weather during the past week has been quite cool. On the whole it has been reasonably favorable for potatoes although emergence of plants has been somewhat delayed and their growth slower than if somewhat higher temperatures had prevailed.

The writer has been chiefly occupied in assembling data and preparing a brief write-up of potato production in each of the Southern States. This information is being compiled for ready reference and will become a part of the Office files.

Nothing of especial importance has come to our attention this week except perhaps an occasional bit of information gleaned from articles in various publications. For example, in the Annual Report of the Department of Agriculture of Prince Edward Island, ending December 31, 1927, p.56, there is contained a brief report of the activities of the Prince Edward Island Potato Growers Association, Inc. The financial statement submitted by the association shows a turnover during the year of $1,693,886.53. This was made up

from the handling of 880,283 bushels of potatoes, 20,870 tons of fertilizers, insecticides, bags, scales, graders and dusters. A credit balance of $10,260.42 is shown

Consul W. Perry George, Riviere du Loup, Quebec, Canada, in Review of Commerce and Industries for the quarter ending March 31, 1928, states that a number of potato shipments destined for New England markets were made during the quarter. These shipments aggregated approximately 14,472 bushels valued at $12,496. Heavy seeding for the coming crop is predicted.

Potato shipments- It was expected that this week's review of potato shipments would show a larger volume of new potatoes than of old ones but this did not materialize at least prior to Wednesday, May 15. The following carlot movements were given in the Daily Market Report of the Market News Service for May 11, 12, 14 and 15. Low prices have undoubtedly delayed the harvesting of early potatoes.

Carlot shipment of potatoes, May 11, 12, 14 and 15, 1928

	Number of cars potatoes		
Date	Old	New	Total
May 11	496	439	935
" 12	657	403	1060
" 14	428	232	660
" 15	499*	339*	838*
Per cent	59.56%	40.45%	

*Not corrected potatoes.

Prices- This week shows still greater price declines and a less active demand for potatoes as is plainly indicated by the volume of cars being rolled unsold. The Brownsville Texas report on May 15 says, demand slow, market dull. Occasional teller of sacked U. S. No.1 Triumph brought $2.25 per 100 lb. sack. Hastings, Fla. quotations on same date were $3.00 per double head barrels of U. S. No.1 Spaulding Rose,(approximately $1.82 per cwt.). At Stevens Point, Wis. old potatoes sacked round whites were quoted at $1.05 to $1.10 per cwt. No material improvement in price is likely to occur during the next week as the volume of old potato offerings is still large enough to materially affect the price of new potatoes.

(Wm. Stuart).

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THE EYE

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WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

MAY 26 1928

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Greeley Colorado Notes. May 21, 1928.

Rain has fallen every day for the past week. The total rainfall recorded at the station for the week was .89 of an inch but in other sections the precipitation was much heavier. Sterling, Colorado, was visited the early part of the week by a very heavy hail and rain storm. Two and one-half inches fell in a very short period of time. The hail damage was not very severe. The same amount of hail a little later in the season no doubt would have caused considerable damage. This entire section has had plenty of rainfall and warm weather and sunshine is now needed.

We began cutting our seed the latter part of the week and it is planned to start planting about May 24th or 25th. It may not be possible to float the potato ground before planting but we are planning to begin harrowing the ground this afternoon. Irrigation water has not been run in our ditch this season. Some of the other laterals have been running water for some time. Our grain and alfalfa are making a very satisfactory growth and there is sufficient moisture for immediate need.

(W.C. Edmundson)

Presque Isle, Maine notes. May 22, 1928.

The weather for the past week has remained favorable for field operation and many farmers have finished putting in their crops. With the exception of the Sprouting Experiment which can not be planted for another week, we finished planting on Aroostook Farm today.

The soil has become rather dry and a rain of some duration is needed for all crops.

The potato market is practically dead-60¢ per bbl. bulk was offered today for Green Mountain.

(P.M. Lombard)

Arlington Farm, Virginia Notes. May 25, 1928.

Germination notes were taken again on Monday. The results due to different storage treatment are very interesting. Some lots have come up quicker than others. Whether this difference remains throughout the season remains to be seen. However, a good start makes the race easier to win. The yield for several seasons will be the true indicator.

The plants are making rapid growth under the present favorable conditions.

The potatoes were cultivated and sprayed the first of this week.

(Walter M. Peacock)

Bridgeton, New Jersey Notes. May 25, 1928.

Potatoes in this section have come up well and under the present favorable conditions will make rapid growth. Judging from reports there seems to be from 12 to 15 per cent or more increase in acreage. Due to previous experimentation and low price of seed a higher rate of seeding per acre has been planted. This will increase the yield per acre and have a tendency to produce tubers more uniform in size. With favorable weather for the next six or seven weeks, South Jersey promises to produce a good yield of high quality Irish Cobbler potatoes.

During the past few years, because of the development of improved roads and the modern trucks, a noticeable change has taken place in the marketing of potatoes in New Jersey. Much of the crop is hauled by truck direct from the field to Philadelphia, Pa.: Trenton, N. J.; Newark, N.J.; New York City and Brooklyn, N. Y.; Atlantic City, N. J. and other nearby cities. The selling of the potatoes to the city commission merchants takes place both in the field and in the cities. Some of the jobbers come to the growers' fields, look over the quality of the potatoes and possible daily output and bargain for the potatoes either at a definite price within a certain time or on a daily market basis. In this case the jobber usually sends trucks to the field to haul the potatoes. Many farmers prefer to haul their potatoes to the city and sell them on the market. Both methods have advantages and disadvantages. The former

helps to control the market in becoming glutted. When the jobbers have more than they can sell they do not go out to buy potatoes. The writer does not wish to lead the readers to believe that all of the New Jersey crop is handled by the methods of marketing mentioned above. During the principal harvesting periods both for the early and late crops, potatoes are bought at country freight stations where good markets have been established. A large per cent of these are shipped to the more distant markets. Potatoes are also loaded at these country loading stations during the winter and spring months.

(Walter M. Peacock)

Louisiana Notes.

The following extracts are taken from a letter to the writer by Professor G. L. Tiebout, under date of May 22. "The prices on new potatoes are not very high but good growers are making money. A season like this year's will help us weed out the undesirable producers.

Mr. Newton is making a splendid record for the Farm Bureau Selling Exchange, and Houma is putting up her potatoes in a manner that is making a record. It is coming to the point where we have to suggest that other territories send representatives to Houma to see how it is being done. You would be surprised to know how people from a distance are going there for information. On the suggestion of Mr. Newton, Iberia sent a delegation to Houma to learn how the potatoes were being put up for market."

Mr. Allen Ellender tells me that he produced on some plots of potatoes as high as 300 bushels per acre of U. S. No. 1. I suppose his next goal will be 350 to 400 bushels.

(Wm. Stuart)

Wisconsin Notes.

The potato planting season will be well advanced in upper Wisconsin from May 20 to June 1. In certain sections where growers are planting for the early market, quite a large acreage had been planted by May 20. The heaviest planting will occur during the period May 25 to June 5.

Wisconsin Notes (continued)

Weather conditions have been very satisfactory to permit growers to get land in excellent planting condition. Rainfall has been adequate and conditions generally are reputed satisfactory.

The Horticultural Department expects an increase of from 15-20 per cent in the certified seed acreage. Several large acreages will be planted and the tendency is generally toward larger certified seed blocks.

This is especially true in the case of the Triumph variety. Several cars of western seed have been shipped into Wisconsin this year. Opportunity will be offered again to compare results of this seed with strains improved through indexing and farm selections. Most growers have obtained an index record on the seed they will plant and this will aid the inspection service in obtaining records as a basis for certification.

It is probable the annual Wisconsin Tour will be held during the week of August 13-18. Final announcement will be made about June 1.

The Horticultural Department has completed a series of field conferences arranged in the producing centers of certified seed potatoes. Certain improvements relating to the issuance of certificates and official tags will no doubt be inaugurated this year. At the conference held at Rice Lake in Barron County on May 22, a complete organization of committees was perfected relating to the Wisconsin Potato Show to be held at Rice Lake, October 22-26, 1928.

(J. G. Milward)

Washington Notes:

The weather during the past week has been generally cool and cloudy with some thunder showers. Owing to an abundance of soil moisture, most crops, except warmth-loving ones, are making a satisfactory growth. The writer has devoted considerable time this week to the renewing of potato articles in bulletins and circulars of the Southern Agricultural Experiment Stations with the idea of assembling it for convenient reference of the office. One of the more recent publications received seems worth noting at this time as it deals with the economic factors involved in potato Production.

Bruce McKinley in Bulletin 193 of the Florida Agricultural Experiment Station, entitled "An Economic Study of Potato Farming in the Hastings Area for the Crop Year 1925" presents the results of his rather exhaustive study of this question. In collecting his data the author made use of the survey method. A complete record of the farm business of each farmer for the year beginning November 1, 1924 and ending November 1, 1925. The Hastings area was divided into four districts, consisting of Hastings, Bunnell, Green Cove Springs and LaCrosse. Records were obtained from 217 farms in the first district, 50 from the second, 14 from the third and 13 from the fourth. While the data obtained is of greater value to southern than to northern potato growers there is much that should be of interest to those who are producing potatoes in the North.

Vice Consul John E. Jones of Agua Prieta, Sonora, Mexico, in his quarterly report ending March 31, 1928, states that a few more potatoes from the spring crop are being exported to the United States from that district than were exported from the previous fall crop.

Consul Robertson Honey of Hamilton Bermuda reports, under date of April 30, 1928, that during the second half of April there were invoiced through the Consulate the following quantities and values of potatoes for the years 1926-1928:

Potatoes:	Weight in lbs.	Value
1926	989,830	$95,757.00
1927	464,728	41,475.03
1928	1,741,209	137,482.93

The spring crop is reported to be doing admirably and it is estimated that there will be approximately 30,000 barrels of 2-2/3 bushels each.

Potato Movements Potato shipments during the past week were somewhat lighter than the week previous. The movement for the corresponding days averaged 683 per day as compared with 873 for the preceding week.

CARLOT SHIPMENT OF POTATOES MAY 18, 19, 21, 22 and 23, 1928.

Date	Number Cars of Potatoes Old	New	Total
May 18	385	406	791
May 19	524	255	779
May 21	355	126	481
May 22	423	257	680
May 23*	440	399	839
Per Cent	59.58	40.42	

* Not corrected.

Prices. Brownsville, Texas prices on May 22 for sacked Triumph were somewhat weaker than the previous week, being $2.00 to $2.25 per sack of 100 pounds. Hastings, Fla. prices show a slightly stronger price, the quotation being $3.50 per double-headed barrel of Spaulding U. S. No. 1 or about $2.12 per cwt. At Stevens Point, Wis. the price on old potatoes was mostly $1.05 per cwt. Approximately the same percentage of old and new potatoes were shipped.

(Wm. Stuart)

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WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

JUN - 2 1928

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. May 28, 1928

The weather has been quite warm during the past week but rain has fallen almost every day. With warm weather and plenty of moisture all crops are looking well at this time.

We began planting potatoes Wednesday, May 23 and today we planted the seedlings. There is splendid moisture and there should be no trouble this year in securing a good stand. We expect to plant two acres of whole seed Monday. There has been no potato market during the past few weeks although some shippers have been buying potatoes for 35 to 40 cents. It is believed that much of the stock left on hand will possibly be dumped as there appears to be no market for the same.

(W. C. Edmundson).

Presque Isle, Me. Notes. May 28, 1928

The weather for the past week has been exceptionally wet. Planting operations are temporarily stopped until weather conditions change. Some of the smaller plants are in but the big growers have considerable acreage to put in.

Mr. B. E. Brown of the Office of Soil Fertility arrived this morning. The fertilizer plot on Aroostock was planted a week ago. Conditions are unfavorable for getting in the work at Mapleton before Thursday.

The market for old potatoes is very nearly ended; some are being purchased for 75¢ per barrel in bulk.

(P. M. Lombard).

Madill, Okla. Notes. May 29, 1928

As I am about to join the Oklahoma potato tour this morning and will probably not be able to get any portion of the tour in this week's issue of 'The Eye', it may be of interest to state that the potato crop has not entirely recovered from the severe freeze of about April 14-15.

Mr. McNutt, former County Agent of McKenzie County, North Dakota, who is now with the Soo Line, spent yesterday forenoon inspecting potato fields in this section which had been planted with McKenzie County Triumph seed. He reports that the stand and vigor of the plants was materially lessened as a result of the freeze. Such fields as were observed yesterday from the train window seemed to be fairly good so far as stand was concerned, except in a few instances especially in low spots where the plants seemed to have been drowned out. There was abundant evidence of a backward season in all crops and too much rain. Cotton is just nicely above ground. Corn varied from just breaking ground to a foot or more in height.

There has been very little warm weather thus far. Today, however, promises to be hot unless a breeze springsup. The potato tour starts at 9:00 A. M. and is supposed to wind up this evening at Durant in Bryan County. As per previous announcement in "The Eye" the tour extends from May 29 to June 8 inclusive. It is hoped that next week's issue will contain some first-hand field information concerning the condition of the crop in the counties covered by the tour up to the time the report is written.

(Wm. Stuart).

Washington, D. C. Notes June 1, 1928

There has been several light showers during the week. For the last three days ideal growing weather has prevailed.

Notes and photographs were taken of the potato experiments at Arlington Experimental Farm, Va.

This morning Dr. Wm. A. Taylor, Chief of the Bureau of Plant Industry, Dr. L. A. Hawkins, Physiologist of the Office of Fruit and Vegetable Handling, Transportation and Storage Investigations, and Mr. Rex, Chief Seed Inspector of New Jersey, looked over the potato experiments at Arlington Experimental Farm, Va.

This afternoon the writer is leaving for Charleston, S. C. to harvest an experiment there.

Washington, D. C. Notes-Cont'd.

From Report of Bureau of Agricultural Economics (Truck Crop Section) May18,1928
Washington

Maturity of crop as reported by growers for this year and date of shipments in 1927 indicated by carlot movement.

	Compared with average year - days late	Date shipping is expected to begin this year	Week shipping began last year
Arkansas--------	5-20	June 5 - 15	May 21-28
Georgia---------	10-12	May 20 - June 1	May 1 - 7
Kansas ---------	0-10	July 1 - 10	June 26 - July 2
Kentucky---------	10	July 5	July 3-9
Maryland---------	7-15	June 20-July 1	June 19-25
Mississippi------	10-15		May 8 - 14
North Carolina---	0-22	May 28-June 1	May 21-28
Oklahoma---------	15-18	June 18-20	May 29-June 4
Virginia			
Eastern Shore-	0-15	June 15-20	June 5-11
Norfolk--------	Not reported		

Shipments from six early states to May 12 compared with shipments to May 14 last year are as follows:

	May 12, 1928 Cars	May 14, 1927 Cars
Alabama----------	58	885
Calif. S. Dist.------	5	1
Florida---------	4,024	5,258
Louisiana-------	435	782
South Carolina--	1	488
Texas-----------	1,395	1,621

From Report of Weekly Market Review of Fruits and Vegetables, May 29, 1928.

NEW-POTATO SHIPMENTS HEAVY

Movement of new potatoes increased rapidly to 2,900 cars. The Florida season is continuing exceptionally long and shipments of late-planted potatoes in the Hastings district still amounted to 1,300 cars the past week. Florida has already forwarded 6,800 cars, compared with 5,400 all of last season. South Carolina increased to 475 and Texas 470 cars, while Alabama shipped 300 and Louisiana 180 cars. The Eagle Lake-Wharton section of Texas is now active. F. O. B. prices at Hastings, Fla. held about steady at $3.50 per barrel, but southern Texas and Alabama shippers lowered their quotations to $1.75 per 100-pound sack. City jobbing range on Florida stock was $4.25-$5.50, compared with South Carolina barrels at $4-$4.50. Southern Bliss Triumphs sold at a wide range of $2.20-$2.90 per 100 pounds. With Florida still shipping many cars and South Carolina's movement becoming heavy it looks as if all the Eastern States may overlap each other considerably. The carlot movement in Arkansas will be somewhat later than indicated last week, but North Carolina and Virginia may begin within the next 10 days.

Washington, D. C. Notes-Cont'd.

From Report of Weekly Market Review of Fruits and Vegetables, May 29, 1928
Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Old-Potato Markets Weak

Pressed on the north by continued heavy movement of Maine and Idaho potatoes and pressed on the south by the increasing supply of new stock, potato markets were in a rather sorry plight. The recent slight improvement of prices was entirely lost, and further declines occurred. Southern Idaho shipping points dropped to 50¢ or lower, while Aroostook County, Maine, quoted 75¢ per 100 pounds, compared with $3.00 a year ago. Western New York shippers were getting $1.40 and the North Central region declined to a range of 90¢ -$1.00. City jobbing sales of Maine Green Mountains ranged mostly $1.40-$2.20, with New York and Pennsylvania Round Whites at $1.50-$1.75. The Chicago carlot market was 25¢ lower on northern stock at $1.10-$1.20 , and 45¢ lower on Idaho arrivals at $1.25.

Shipments of old potatoes held around 2,500 cars, as against 900 during the same week last spring. Of this total, Maine furnished 1,000 Idaho 570, and the North Central region also 570 cars. Colorado's output increased temporarily to 150 cars. June shipments of old stock may be expected to show a rapid decrease, but the season doubtless will extend into July.

(Walter M. Peacock).

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WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

JUN 9 1928

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. June 4, 1928

The first part of the week was generally fair. Friday .13 of an inch of rain fell and on Saturday and Sunday 1.55 of an inch was recorded at the station. Hail has been reported in some sections but it is believed that little damage has been done by hail up to date. We have had much rainy weather during the past, reminding one of the rainy season of the coast.

In spite of the rain, we are irrigating alfalfa at the present time. Old alfalfa needs irrigation and even though there has been much rain the growth will be increased by irrigating the hay. The grain and young alfalfa, however, will not need to be irrigated at the present time.

We are well along with our potato planting and will be able to finish in two or three days, after the soil is sufficiently dry to allow us to continue. The early potato crop is looking well at the present time. The vines have made a very rapid growth during the past two weeks.

(W. G. Edmundson)

Presque Isle, Maine. June 5, 1928

The weather for the past week has been very wet, nearly six inches of rain having fallen since last Monday, May 28. Very little field work has been done since May 26.

We have discarded on Arcostook Farm all small lots of surplus material, packed away crates and barrels and put in order machinery not needed until next spring.

Some surplus fertilizer has been applied on top this week, cultivated in and will be horse hoed tomorrow.

Several selections have been received from Dr. W. H. Ensign, Truck Horticulturist, Gainesville, Fla. for planting in Maine. This material has been selected from fields of Spaulding Rose and will have to be treated to abreviate the rest period before planting.

Our sprouting experiment will be planted tomorrow, sprouts will be removed for the third time from material stored in the greenhouse, covered with black paper; uncovered material and checks stored in the potato house will have sprouts removed but once.

Seedling potatoes in the greenhouse are ready to be transplanted to the field but it is hardly safe because of danger of frost to put in the field until after June 15.

(P. M. Lombard).

Charleston, S. C. Notes. June 8, 1928.

During the past week the writer assisted in harvesting the experiments planned to find an economical method to control the seed corn maggot. The flies of this insect lay part of their eggs about the time the potatoes are being planted. The young maggots feed on the potato seed pieces. When the seed pieces are badly infested the seed pieces usually rot or produce weak plants. Sometimes the infestation is so bad that it is necessary to replant the field.

The results of the experiments indicated that progress is being made in the control of the seed corn maggot.

This work is being done on the farm of Joseph M. Harrison, St. Andrews Parish, Charleston, S. C.

Mr. Harrison is one of the largest growers in the state. He has a yield varying from 75 to 90 barrels of very high quality Irish Cobbler potatoes. He is very careful in the grading. When a picker does not grade right the barrel is dumped out and the picker (a negro woman) regrades it without pay for the time taken in regarding. The pickers are paid 12½ cents for picking and grading which is done at the same time. This prevents much skinning which is bound to take place when the potatoes are put over a mechanical grader.

This morning the writer was talking with R. J. Ward, a wholesale commission merchant in Washington, D. C. Mr. Ward told the writer that he can always depend on Mr. Harrison's potatoes being well graded.

Potatoes on the Washington, D. C. market were selling for $3.00, $3.25 and $3.50 per barrel according to quality. These figures show that it pays to grade well.

(Walter M. Peacock)

Oklahoma Notes. June 2, 1928

The Third Annual Potato Tour in Oklahoma left the County Agent's office, Madill, Okla., at 9:00 A. M., Tuesday, May 29. The forenoon was spent in visiting potato fields in Marshall County, while the afternoon was spent inspecting potatoes in Johnson County and in driving to Durant in Bryan County, which was reached at 9:40 P. M. The potato fields inspected during the day ranged from poor to very good and included the Washita Farms on which 550 acres of potatoes were being grown. At least 90 per cent of the acreage observed consisted of the Triumph variety the balance being Irish Cobbler. The plants in most of the fields visited were showing the effect of high temperature and lack of soil moisture, the visible indications of which were tipburned or sun-burned leaves. For the most part the plants showed a good set of tubers but they were undersized for the stage of maturity of the plants. It was apparent that if rain did not fall within the next few days and cooler temperatures prevailed the crop would be seriously reduced.

One of the interesting questions arising during the day's trip

Oklahoma Notes-Cont'd.

was that of the wisdom of cultivating the centers of the rows to permit of further ridging of the plants. Most of those in attendance seemed to think that by disking the centers of the rows followed by a sweep, to throw the loose soil towards the plants, thereby helping to conserve the moisture and furnishing additional soil covering for the tubers, would prevent greening or sun-scalding of the potatoes. A few maintained that the injury caused by the inevitable root-pruning of the plants would more than offset the beneficial results that might accrue from breaking the surface crust and the additional soil protective covering for the tubers. In practically every plot of Irish Cobblers examined a considerable percentage of blackleg plants were noted. Most of the Irish Cobbler seed was from Minnesota or Wyoming. Spindle tuber plants also appeared to be more abundant in the Irish Cobbler than in the Triumph though in some lots of Triumph there were quite a few spindle tuber plants. Very little mosaic disease was noted but the conditions for mosaic expression were not favorable as they were beginning to mature. The prevailing practice in the use of commercial fertilizers is to apply from 400 to 500 lbs. of an 8-4-6 mixture, that is 8 per cent phosphoric acid, 4 per cent nitrogen and 6 per cent potash. In the South the customary method of stating fertilizer analysis is to give phosphoric acid first, while in the northeastern United States the first figure stands for nitrogen, for example the formula just given would be stated 4-8-6 instead of 8-4-6. Few growers use more than 10 bushels of seed per acre and the majority use less than this amount. One grower informed me that he had used 80 bushels of seed in planting his 12-acre field. The usual spacing between rows is from 36 to 42 inches and 14 to 17 inches in the row. A number of fields were noted which had been planted with home grown seed. In most cases the plants looked thrifty and while not as far advanced promised to make a good crop. In practically every instance these fields had been planted with Junior seed, that is, seed removed one year from northern grown seed.

Wednesday, May 30, was devoted to the inspection of potato fields in Bryan County. Some large acreages were found in the vicinity of Boswell. On the whole the general condition of the crop was better in Bryan County than in that of Marshall and Johnson Counties. The day ended with our arrival at Idabel about 10 o'clock.

Thursday, May 31, was spent in McCurtain County where very much the same conditions were noted as in Bryan County with the exception of two or three fields which were really superior to any previously visited. The best of these was that of R. D. Brown a lawyer of Kansas City, Mo., who is operating a farm at Garvin. Mr. Brown is a thorough believer in the value of cover crops as a soil restorer and was able to furnish an excellent object lesson on the effect of turning under a heavy growth of cowpea vines as compared with corn stubble. Some excellent potatoes were also noted on Mr. Gamble's farm in the same locality. Mr. Gamble has about 110 acres of potatoes and had planted 1400 bushels of seed potatoes. He also believes in turning under cowpeas or other leguminous cover crop. Our arrival at Hugo about 9:00 P. M. ended the day.

Oklahoma Notes-Cont'd.

On the following day several potato fields were inspected in Choctaw County. Some 20 members of the Choctaw boys and girls potato club accompanied the tour and some of their potato plots were studied during the day. Some good fields were noted but they were not equal to those visited in McCurtain County.

Saturday, June 2, was devoted to the inspection of potato fields in Pushmataha County where very similar conditions were noted to those in Choctaw County except that in some portions of the county visited there had been a fairly heavy rainfall during the preceding night.

General Observations- As a rule the attendance was good throughout the week. Nebraska had four representatives who remained with the tour until Friday noon. North Dakota had one attendant who remained throughout the first two days. Minnesota was represented until Thursday noon by Mr. and Mrs. Pratt of East Grand Forks, Minn. Some fertilizer and railway officials were also present. Three potato growers from Perry, Kansas are also taking in the tour and have shown considerable interest in the cultural practices in vogue in southeastern Oklahoma.

Two things have impressed the writer on this potato tour, these are the seeming remoteness of many commercial potato fields from shipping point and the general roughness of the side roads over which much of the potato tour seemed to be routed. While many growers have much to learn concerning potato culture there is a sufficient number of interested growers to justify the belief that the next five years will witness a considerable increase in production.

(Wm. Stuart).

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Berkeley, Calif. Notes. May 23, 1928.

A survey of the crop conditions in the southern part of the state shows that the potato crop is very spotted. In some localities it looks good while in others it has suffered materially from lack of moisture and frost. It would seem from our present information that the potato crop in southern California will not be larger than in 1927. In the Shafter district the crop is better this year than last because there has not been any frost damage. Considerable losses have, however, been sustained from rotting of the seed pieces and from blackleg or what appeared to be that disease. Last year in addition to frost damage the Shafter district suffered severely from aphis infestation. It looks now as if this section would ship 700 carloads this season as against 400 last year. The crop has already begun to move.

In the Stockton district the early plantings, taken as a whole, look very poor. For the most part the vines are spindly, have poor color and seem to be much affected with rhizoctonia. Considerable rotting of seed pieces has also occurred. The potatoes that were planted in April are about 6 inches high and look better. Climatic conditions the latter part of April and first part of May were very unfavorable. We are continuing our work in an attempt to improve the seed by eliminating disease.

(H. G. Zuckerman).

Greeley, Colo. Notes. June 11, 1928.

The weather continues to be cool and cloudy with occasional showers. Over two inches of rain fell the first part of the week. We also had a light hail storm at the station the first part of the week. This hail caused some damage to the garden crop but practically no damage to our field crops.

We finished planting the experimental plots of potatoes at Greeley, Wednesday, June 7, and Thursday and Friday a seed plot was planted at Estes Park. The plot at Estes is always planted by hand. The writer found the Beauty of Hebron being grown at Estes under the name of Longs Peak. It is planned to plant the seed plot at the station tomorrow. The seed plot is always planted on the tuber unit basis, a portion of the plot being planted with hill selected seed from last year's seed plot.

Colorado Notes-Cont'd.

At present we are cultivating the potato ground. Owing to the abundance of rainfall our cultivating has been delayed and we have experienced some difficulty in putting the ground into good condition. The method we are following is to first cultivate rather shallow with a narrow shovel cultivator. After a half a day, this cultivation is followed by deep cultivation and after this operation, the ground is harrowed. Following this method we have been able to put the ground in very good physical condition. All the ground is quite badly crusted from the heavy rain. Owing to the heavy rains, potato planting in the district will be later than usual.

It has been noted that many of the farmers are only now beginning to plant their potatoes, whereas planting in normal seasons is about finished at this time. The early potato crop is looking exceptionally good at this time.

(W. C. Edmundson).

Presque Isle, Me. Notes. June 12, 1928.

We have had four days of rain since the last report. With the exception of a shower yesterday, Sunday, Monday and today have been fair. Much rotting of potato seed is reported from all sections of the county. Some whole fields are gone and are being harrowed and seeded to grain. All low spots, even on land of high elevation, show rotten seed. Considerable acreage is still to be planted with favorable weather. It is very doubtful if much increased acreage over last year will be planted. No figures are available on the acreage loss due to rot, but from personal observation of the writer it will be quite large.

The sprouting experiment was planted on Aroostook Farm, June 11 together with 56 hill selections of Spaulding Rose from Gainesville, Fla. These selections were treated with sodium thiocyanate before planting. Where the selections were large enough they were divided and part planted as a check.

The seedlings in the greenhouse will be transplanted to the field next week. We have begun cultivation and horse-hoeing on our plots for the second time.

(P. M. Lombard).

Washington, D. C. Notes. June 14, 1928.

The weather for the past week has been variable. On Monday it was unseasonably cool. Since then it has been hot and showery.

The potatoes at Arlington Experimental Farm, Va. are making rapid vine growth.

Washington, D. C. Notes-Cont'd.

H. H. Campbell, County Agent, Mineola, N. Y., in a letter addressed to Dr. Wm. Stuart, states that the Eleventh Annual Long Island Potato Tour will be held June 27-28-29. For further information write to Mr. Campbell.

(Walter M. Peacock)

Onley, Va. Notes. June 2, 1926

At this date the prospects of a record breaking potato crop in this section are not so good as they were two weeks ago. The potatoes throughout Northampton and lower Accomack Counties are in full bloom but most of the plants are small and the tubers are setting too close to the main stem. Unless rain comes soon the crop will be short. Most of the acreage went into the ground during March. On may 14 considerable frost damage to the plants occurred over most of Accomack County. Many predict about half a crop. A 15,000 carlot movement is considered a close estimate. A small shipment of potatoes left Cape Charles on May 28 and brought $5.00 per barrel. Regular digging will not start until the week of June 11.

(W. O. Strong).

Virginia Potato Tour.

County Agent, W. O. Strong, announces that the Sixth Annual Potato Tour in Accomack County, Virginia will be held on Thursday, June 21.

Representatives from most of the northeastern part of the United States and Canada are expected to be in attendance. Visitors are invited to come a day or two early and see the 70,000 acres of Irish Cobbler planted on the Peninsula. Auto accommodations will be provided free.

The Worcester County, Maryland tour is announced for June 22.

(Wm. Stuart).

Oklahoma Notes. June 11, 1928

Atoka and Coal Counties were scheduled for June 4 but owing to extremely heavy thunder showers on the 4th the roads were made impassable to the latter county. Some very interesting fields of Triumph were noted in Atoka County during the day and several 4-H Club members' potato plots were visited. The night was spent at McAlester and the first fields

Oklahoma Notes-Cont'd.

visited on Tuesday were in the vicinity of Eufaula. At this point the party had the privilege of inspecting a large acreage of Irish Cobbler which was exceptionally free from disease and had made a heavy vine growth. The rows were spaced less than 3 feet apart and the plants completely obliterated the rows. The second field visited contained both Triumph and Irish Cobbler and was also very promising. A number of fields were visited during the day in McIntosh and Pittsburg Counties and for the most part were found to be in excellent condition.

Wednesday was spent in LeFlore and Sequoyah Counties and somewhat the same conditions were observed as in the preceding counties except that a greater variety of seed potatoes were noted. Newly harvested Triumph potatoes were being loaded at Braden and were said to be fairly good stock. On the following day potato fields were inspected in Muskogee County. In this section the Irish Cobbler is being grown to a much larger extent than in any other county. J. W. Taylor of Webbers Falls, has between 300 and 400 acres of Irish Cobbler. Much of his acreage had made an extremely satisfactory growth and gave promise of a heavy yield. Mr. Taylor has his seed potatoes grown for him in northwestern Minnesota and his stock proved to be unusually free from mosaic and other virus diseases. Mr. Taylor follows potatoes with wheat and hairy vetch which is turned under for the ensuing potato crop. Some dozen or more farms were visited during the day ending up with inspection of R. T. Payne and John Brown's farms on which a considerable acreage of North Dakota Triumph seed had been planted.

The tour was ended with field inspections of potatoes in Wagoner County. Some excellent fields were observed during the day. On J. C. Stone's farm those in attendance had a good opportunity to study the effect of freezing and of protecting the plants by covering them with soil. Some large acreages were noted during the trip. Out-of-town guests were entertained with a banquet at the Severs Hotel, Muskogee, Friday night by the Oklahoma Potato Growers Association.

General impressions- The Third Annual Oklahoma Potato Tour was generally well attended in every county included in the ten-day itinerary and good interest was shown on the part of most growers in the general discussions in the field relative to diseases, culture, fertilization, etc. The general quality of the seed planted had evidently been good. There were some exceptionally good lots of seed and fields and a few that were rather inferior but the general average was good. The Oklahoma Potato Growers Association furnished a large portion of the seed used in planting the fields visited. The crop prospect is on the whole rather good but the price prospect is not so encouraging. It would appear as if the acreage increase was somewhat out of line with the probable market outlet.

Oklahoma Notes-Cont'd.

Much credit is due D. C. Moering, Extension Orchard and Garden Specialist and to the County Agents for their splendid cooperation in making the tour a success and to the Oklahoma Potato Growers Association for their entertainment at Muskogee.

(Wm. Stuart).

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WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

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JUN 23 1928

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. June 18, 1928.

The weather has been partly cloudy during the greater part of the week with occasional showers and heavy rains.

We finished planting the seed plot Thursday. The seed plot was planted on the tuber unit basis. Potatoes planted at the station the latter part of May are now beginning to germinate.

We began cutting the old alfalfa hay Thursday and will possibly stack hay by the middle of the week. We began irrigating the grain today. It is believed that one irrigation will be sufficient this year to produce a good crop of grain and maintain the young alfalfa in good condition.

Potato planting has been later than usual in the Greeley district this year but it is believed that most of the growers will finish planting by June 20.

(W. C. Edmundson).

Presque Isle, Me. Notes. June 19, 1928.

The weather for the past week has been fair and warm. The bulk of the planting is finished and cultivation is under way.

On Aroostook Farm and adjoining plots we finished cultivating and horse-hoeing Friday for the second time. Saturday two plots were fitted for the 1928 seedlings. Monday these plots were furrowed out and fertilized with the planter having disks attached. Following this the rows were horse-hoed with disks attached. This left the soil mellow for from 4-6 inches in depth and when the seedlings were transplanted today the soil was in perfect condition, it being possible to open up the soil with the hand to set the plants. This is the second year we have followed this method. Last year we lost practically no plants from lack of moisture following transplanting. Previous years the loss of plants has been heavy using the open furrow. About 2800 seedlings were transplanted today. The balance, or a total of 4500 will be put out tomorrow.

The County Agents of this state are to visit Aroostook Farm, July 14 to look over both State and Federal experimental work.

(P. M. Lombard).

Holmdel, Monmouth County, N. J. Notes. June 20, 1928.

Quite a remarkable season in the life of the current potato crop has reached the blooming stage. While the crop went in under fine conditions the next six weeks were cold and the seed sprouted slowly and made little growth until within the past two weeks when they have fairly jumped ahead, though they do not "close the rows" yet. We have had much rain, and often,

so that at no time has the crop wanted moisture and many expected bad results from so much moisture during May. However, the crop looks luxuriantly healthy - seemingly there was no disease work among the plants. Most of the farmers used the new disinfectants on their seed last spring (this season) but it is too early to even guess at the results of the seed treatment. No one, known to the writer, in the eastern part of Monmouth County, N. J. has sprayed this season and not until this week was it necessary to dust for bugs.

The fields are free of weeds so far - thanks to the use of the harrow and weeder during the first few weeks of the plants' lives. The idea is growing among our farmers that the principal object of cultivation is to keep the weeds controlled and not to rip up the soil as of old. The first and only deep cultivation is when the plants can be rowed across the field. Thereafter care is used not to disturb the roots of the plant as they spread out in search of plant food. The "set" appears to be good. The danger of blight due to the damp weather and soft luxuriant foliage is causing some concern among the older growers. With fairly dry, sunny weather from now on the crop in Monmouth County, New Jersey should be unusually good.

(Theron McCampbell).

Washington, D. C. Notes. June 22, 1928.

Until a couple of days ago the potato experiments at Arlington Experimental Farm, Va. were suffering because of insufficient available soil moisture. With the heavy shower this morning there should be enough moisture for the next two weeks.

The potato vines now completely cover the 32 inch rows. The tubers are about the size of large hen eggs and there is a good set of tubers. With sufficient moisture until the middle of July the yield will be large.

The potato markets have been in a sluggish condition and the prices discouragingly low during the past week. The shipments from both North and South Carolina have been usually heavy this year. The daily shipment of old and new potatoes has averaged about 1100 cars. Virginia and North Carolina are the two leading states in the shipment of potatoes.

On the 19th of this month the North Carolina growers were receiving $1.50-$1.60 per barrel for Irish Cobblers and the Virginians $2.00 per barrel for the same variety. A year ago these growers were selling their potatoes for $5.00-$5.75 per barrel. The lower prices of this year are caused by overproduction.

W. J. Reid, Jr. from the Entomological Station of the U. S. Dept. Agr., Chadburne, N. C.; Prof. C. P. Close, U. S. Dept. of Agr., Washington, D. C.; James E. Morrison, County Agent, Sterling, Colo.; R. H. Felts, District Advisor, Fort Collins, Colo.; G. P. Smith, County Agent, Longmont, Colo.;and Wm. F. Droge, County Agent, Rocky Ford, Colo. viewed the potato experiments at Arlington Experimental Farm, Va. on Wednesday.

(Walter M. Peacock)

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WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

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JUN 6 1928

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. June 25, 1928.

The first of the week .87 of an inch of rain fell. The rain was accompanied with some wind and as a result of the soil condition together with the wind, about half of our barley lodged. Some of the barley has since come up and it is quite probable that a large percentage of the barley can be harvested if we have no future heavy rains. Quite frequently when the grain goes down the young alfalfa is smothered out. The Greeley district is now in the midst of haying. One field of old hay was stacked last Friday at the station and we have another field of hay which we hope to be able to stack by the middle of the week.

The early potato crop is looking exceptionally well at this time and it is believed that some growers will probably start digging about the 8th or 10th of July. The late crop is now germinating but it is too early to estimate the percentage of stand. As statedin previous notes to "The Eye", the planting of the late crop extended over a much longer period this year due to rainy weather. We began cultivating potatoes Saturday. This will be the third cultivation for the potatoes at the station. We also are planning on beginning spraying this week for the potato flea beetle.

The writer returned home Saturday from a trip to Minneapolis, after attending the international Rotary Convention in that city. It was noted through Nebraska that that section had been visited by very heavy rains during the past week. Heavy rains were encountered through Nebraska on the trip east and also on the return trip and many of the fields appeared to be badly flooded. Rainy weather appears to have been quite general through this district.

(W. C. Edmundson).

Presque Isle. Me. Notes. June 25, 1928.

We have transplanted the potato seedlings, which have been growing in the greenhouse, in the field. The total number set out was 4130. The plants were of good size, those of some lots being 12 to 16 inches in height. Two of the most vigorous lots were the progenies obtained by crossing Triumph with Seedling No. 24642 and by crossing Irish Cobbler with Green Mountain. In the progeny of a cross between two seedlings of Rural lineage the plants rarely exceeded 8 inches in height. As the plants were being taken up in the greenhouse for transportation to the field it was possible to eliminate a small percentage which were weak or had undesirable foliage characteristics.

(C. F. Clark).

Presque Isle, Me. Notes. June 26, 1928.

The weather has been warm and dry for the past week up to Sunday when a much needed shower came giving us 1/2 inch of rain. All crops in general are looking good with the exception of grain which has improved in appearance since the shower.

Cultivation is still in progress on our plots and part of them have been hand hoed for weeks.

Spraying will not begin until next week. To date the writer has not seen any Colorado potato beetles. Usually they are very abundant as soon as the potato vines are through the ground.

(P. M. Lombard).

Moorhead, Minn. Notes. June 19, 1928.

The following potato tour is being planned in Minnesota:-

Tuesday, July 31, East Central Minnesota district.
Wednesday, Aug.1, Beltrami County.
Thursday, Aug. 2, Polk County (Crookston and East Grand Forks).
Friday, Aug. 3, Kittson County (N. W. corner of state).

(E. M. Gillig).

Deerfield, N. J. Notes. June 29, 1928.

The early crop in this section and nearby points never looked better. Last Saturday the big vigorous vines were in full bloom. They not only look good above the ground but are set well with large tubers for the present stage of development. One of the leading growers told the writer that he and several other growers would harvest a 400 bushel crop this year. There are not only prospects for large yields per acre but there has been an increase in the acreage planted this year in this vicinity.

Within the past few years Deerfield has been one of the largest shipping points of high grade potatoes in South Jersey. The soil is very fertile, kept in a high state of cultivation, and is well adapted to potato production.

(Walter M. Peacock).

Prince Edward Island, Canada Notes. June 28, 1928

According to Vice Consul E. H. Gunsaulus, fertilizer orders were increased this year. The Prince Edward Island Potato Growers Association imported about 35,000 tons of fertilizer, an increase of 11,000 tons over last year, which indicates a large extension in the acreage planted for seed potatoes on the Island this year.

(Walter M. Peacock).

Washington, D. C. Notes. June 29, 1928.

Showers are almost a daily occurrence and frequently several within twenty-four hours during the past week. There is enough moisture in the soil to produce a big yield of potatoes at the Arlington Experimental Farm, Va.

The plants in the potato experiments are growing and showing signs of maturing on the Arlington Experimental Farm, Va. The vines are now so large that they over-lap from one row to another. It is almost next to being impossible to tell where the rows are by just looking them over because of the size of the plants.

The main scene of shipping activities is now shifting to the Virginia-Maryland peninsula. According to a report from the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, dated June 26, 1928,- "South Carolina potato season is almost finished and North Carolina's peak is past. Virginia took the lead last week with 525 cars from the Norfolk section and 2,550 cars from Eastern Shore. North Carolina decreased slightly to 2,275 cars; Alabama was still shipping 500 a week, and Oklahoma increased to 480 cars; California's total was 165 cars. The Maryland season was starting, and July supplies promise to be heavy. Recent reports from New Jersey indicate good crop prospects there, and the Kaw Valley of Kansas now expects a record production of 6,000 or 7,000 carloads. Yields in a number of the Southern States have been higher than expected. Alabama has already shipped 3,000 cars of potatoes, compared with 2,100 last year. Florida's total will reach 7,700 cars. The past week's total output increased further to 6,915 cars, or 1,000 more than a year ago."

On june 26, potatoes at North Carolina shipping points were selling for $1.25 to $1.35 per 165 lb. cloth top stave barrel and at Eastern points for $1.50 to $1.60. The difference in prices in the above states are due to North Carolina being farther from market.

On the Washington, D. C. market this morning potatoes from North Carolina and Eastern Shore were selling for $2.50 per barrel for fancy stock. In fact all the new potatoes that the writer saw on the market were high grade stock. It is doubtful whether Washington has ever received better graded stock except a few put up in fancy packages. The stock on the Washington market this morning coming from North Carolina was slightly larger in size and perhaps more mature than those from Eastern Shore. Old potatoes were moving slowly on the Washington market at $1.50 per sack.

With prospects for large yields from potato sections farther north it does not seem advisable to hold potatoes this year for a later market.

(Walter M. Peacock).

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PLANT INDUSTRY

T H E E Y E

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WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

JUL 7 1928

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. July 2, 1928.

Thursday, 1.43 of an inch of rain fell at the station, while the following day, 2.06 inches of rain fell in a very short period of time. The Friday rain was accompanied by a hail storm that did considerable damage to crops in various sections throughout the Greeley district. At the station, very little damage was done by hail. The water, however, flooded the crops quite badly. The barley was laid flat with the heavy rain. While the potatoes and beans were torn to some extent, it is believed that they will still produce a good crop. At the same time the hail and heavy rain was doing its damage, a cyclone was working destruction about fourteen miles southwest of Greeley. Two people were killed and thirty or forty injured. This is probably the first cyclone that has visited this section of the country. It is impossible to estimate at this time the amount of damage caused by the hail. The grain and beans throughout the district seem to have suffered most and in most instances, I believe that the potatoes and beans will recover sufficiently to make a fair crop.

We finished stacking hay at the station Wednesday and also finished cultivating all potato plots. We began cultivating the potatoes again this morning for a heavy crust had formed. Dr. List, entomologist of the Colorado Agricultural College, was at the station Thursday and supervised the spraying of a two-acre plot for the potato flee beetle. Calcium arsenate was used at the rate of three pounds to one hundred gallons of water.

(W. C. Edmundson).

Presque Isle, Maine Notes. July 3, 1928.

The weather for the past week has been very warm, with several showers, a total rainfall for June of 3.28 inches. Over a third of this fell Saturday night, June 23.

Ideal growing weather has prevailed and all crops are making a splendid growth. We began spraying our plots yesterday for the first time and weather permitting we will finish all of our plots tomorrow. Potato bugs are very scarce so far this season. No poison is being used in the first application of Bordeaux mixture.

The writer still lacks reliable data on the loss of potatoes during the heavy May rains. Many fields have been planted over and the general opinion is that two per cent will cover the loss.

(P. M. Lombard).

Snow Hill, Md. Notes. June 28, 1928.

The potato crop in this section is not nearly so heavy as last year in spite of the fact that the acreage is about 12 per cent greater. The quality of the stock being harvested is excellent and dealers have agreed to ship only U. S. No. 1 potatoes. The price, however, is very unsatisfactory U. S. No.1's in cloth top stave barrels are only bringing $1.50 per barrel. It is hoped that after the North Carolina crop is out of the way better prices will prevail.

(R. T. Grant, County Agent
(Worcester County.

Madison. Wis. Notes. June 27, 1928.

From reports received from several potato growing centers, conditions are considered very satisfactory at this date, as regards the potato crop. The plants in most sections are just coming through the ground. In certain sections where an early crop has been planted the stand and vine growth are reported excellent. Rainfall has been adequate, and the crop has made satisfactory growth.

Seed potato applications are being received at the Horticultural Department with indications of lively interest in certified work this season. The first inspection will begin about July 15.

Local committees are at work in the producing sections along the route of the 1928 potato tour to perfect programs and local arrangements for the tour An unusually favorable opportunity will be presented this year to inspect relatively large blocks of seed obtained from several seed potato producing centers

No unfavorable conditions of any importance have been encountered thus far this season to damage the potato crop.

(J. G. Milward).

Washington, D. C. Notes. July 6, 1928.

The weather during the week has been hot and dry with the exception of a very light shower.

The writer has spent the week working on experimental data.

The market continues dull with heavy shipments. The Eastern Shore of Virginia and Maryland will ship heavily during the month of July. South Jersey will start to furnish the local markets of Philadelphia, Atlantic City and seashore resorts with New Jersey Irish Cobblers about the middle of this month. Central New Jersey and Long Island will soon follow South Jersey and supply the markets in northern New Jersey and New York with potatoes. The New Jersey crop is reported to be larger than last year. A large per cent of the potatoes grown on Long Island and in New Jersey are hauled to market in trucks.

(Walter M. Peacock).

Long Island Notes. July 6, 1928

The eleventh annual Long Island potato tour which was held, June 27 to 29, under the auspices of the Nassau and Suffolk County Farm Bureaus proved to be one of the best ever held by these two organizations. The weather was ideal throughout the tour with the exception of the last feature which consisted of a dinner at Mattituck and after dinner speaking during which time it rained more or less.

The tour left Mineola promptly at 9:00 A. M. Wednesday, June 27, and the day's program included seven stops for the inspection of seed source trial plots, two of which were Irish Cobbler, four Green Mountain and one of both varieties. Some interesting differences were observable in the 21 lots of Green Mountain seed. One of these lots showed an average mosaic disease count of 21 per cent, another lot averaged 19.5 and a third 18 per cent. Only one of the 17 lots of Irish Cobbler seed stock showed a mosaic disease count. In this particular lot there was 3 per cent. One lot registered 0.5 per cent of leaf roll and another 6 per cent. Only one lot showed the presence of spindle tuber but the infection was slight (0.5 per cent). On the whole the various lots of seed gave every indication of making a satisfactory crop. The commercial potato fields observed during the first day's tour had made a satisfactory growth and should make good yields.

Brief talks were made at each stop during the day, Dr. H. C. Huckett, entomologist of the Long Island Research Farm discussed the dusting and spraying of potatoes for the control of insect pests, particularly the flea beetles, aphids and the potato leaf hoppers. Little effective control has as yet been obtained in the control of the first brood of the flea beetle. Dr. K. H. Fernow explained the reasons for seed certification, while Maine seed certification was explained by E. L. Newdick, chief inspector for Maine. At another stop Dr. E. E. Clayton discussed potato diseases and their control. Market demands in relation to qiality in potatoes was the subject of a talk by Dr. E. V. Hardenburg. Emphasis was placed on the importance of growing good quality stock and of properly grading it. The spraying of potatoes was handled by Dr. Charles Chupp, who emphasized the necessity of thorough work. Seed certification in the Dominion of Canada was discussed by Dr. H. T. Gussow, who explained the seed certification rules under which the Canadian seed potato inspection service is conducted and of the desire to make it as thorough as possible. At the last field stop, which was at the trial grounds of the Kroemer Seed Company, those in attendance had an opportunity to inspect small trial plots of seed representing carlots which had been handled by the firm. One of the most interesting plots showed the effects on germination and vine growth of potatoes on land which had received a heavy application of fertilizer but which had been poorly mixed with the soil. Fertilizer injury was quite noticeable and served as a good object lesson to the growers. The day was ended with an eveing session at the State School of Applied Agriculture at Farmingdale, where the party remained over night.

Left Farmingdale Thursday morning for a two days' tour in Suffolk County A Green Mountain seed source demonstration on the farm of Ralph Dodge at Greenlawn was the object of the first stop. The second stop was at the farm of M. S. Warner where another Green Mountain seed source demonstration was inspected and an address of welcome given those present by J. C. Corwith, president of the Suffolk County Farm and Home Bureau Associations.

Dr. Karl Fernow discussed the identification of degeneration diseases at this point. The following stop, which was the third on the day's program, gave the party an opportunity to study a time of cutting seed and storage demonstration. Seed had been cut March 1, 8, and 15 and held in bags, barrels and crates until time of planting - April 18 - Other seed had been cut on March 2 and 10 and held in room temperatures of 36°-40° and 60°F. Those held at 60°F in a bag showed a poor stand.

The potato tour stopped for lunch at the Long Island Vegetable Research Farm. After luncheon brief talks were made by Dr. Wessells and his associates in which they explained the chief features of the investigational work in which they were engaged, this being followed by personally conducted tours around the experimental plots. An interesting feature of the work was that pertaining to potatoes on which studies are being made in cultivation, insect control, diseases, fertilizers, cover crops, soil acidity, and size of experimental plot. The soil acidity plots proved of distinct interest to many of th growers on account of the size and appearance of plants growing on soil of various degrees of acidity.

The afternoon was devoted principally to a study of the use of the tractor in spraying and cultivating the potato crop. On some farms all the operations pertaining to potato culture which involve the use of implements are performed with the tractor. For example, a Fordson tractor on the horseless farm of E. W. Van Brunt of Southampton was operating a sprayer. A Farm-Al tractor was being used on the farm of L. E. Downs to cultivate potatoes while L. Fowler and Ehner Sayre were using Toro tractors for cultivating and spraying respectively. J. C. Corwith and Hervey Rose are also converts to the use of the tractor in planting, cultivating and spraying. Supper was served at the Water Mill Community House after which an evening program was rendered. The most interesting feature was a discussion of efficient spraying in which a number participated.

The north shore of Long Island was taken in on Friday, the first stop being made at the farm of H. J. Reeve and Son for the purpose of inspecting one of the Green Mountain source of seed plots and of listening to a talk by Prof. C. R. Crosby on "Leaf Hopper Control." At the farm of Russell Silleck, Nassau Point there was an opportunity to compare various grades of Maine certified and uncertified seed. At this point Dr. E. S. Schultz discussed the lots of seed and personally conducted the party through his disease plot in which were planted the various types of virus diseases. An Irish Cobbler seed source demonstration was next studied on the farm of Henry Jennings and the object of such demonstrations was explained by N. A. Talmage. At this point also H. L. Bailey discussed the seed certification inspection service in Vermont. On the farm of Fred Tabor of Orient there was an opportunity to study a high analysis fertilizer test. Some interesting differences in vine growth were observed. The final fueld stop was made at the farm of Rufus Tuthill where an Irish Cobbler seed source demonstration was located. The feature talk at this point was a discussion of "What seed improvement means in the Dominion of Canada." by chief inspector John Tucker.

The closing session of the tour was held at the Marratooka Club near Mattituck where dinner was served and a program consisting of talks on "Is certification the limit of possible improvement in the quality of seed potatoes"? by J. R. Livermore, and "Factors influencing the demand for Long Island potatoes" by J. M. McCauley, a wholesaler of New York City.

Impressions of the Tour- Taken as a whole the appearance and general condition of the potato crop in both Nassau and Suffolk Counties is indicative of a heavy yield provided no unfavorable conditions are encountered. Some late blight was observed in two fields and in one at least was in an active condition of growth. Spraying on Long Island while apparently made at sufficiently frequent intervals is not thorough enough in any one application to be effective in case of a late blight epidemic because every sprayer noted only contained one nozzle to the row. The care with which all details of the potato tour had been worked out by the Farm Bureau leaders - Messrs. Campbell and Foster of Nassau and Suffolk Counties, and the thoroughly businesslike manner in which the whole program was carried out on schedule time is deserving of much credit.

(Wm. Stuart).

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BUREAU OF PLANT INDUSTRY

T H E E Y E

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WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

JUL 14 1928

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. July 10, 1928.

Friday, .43 of an inch of rain fell. Some hail accompanied the rain but no damage was done to crops at the station. Other sections, however, reported some hail damage. Most all sections of the Greeley district have had some hail this year.

The seed bean crop has been greatly damaged and numerous fields have already been disked up. The seed beans at the station have been destroyed by bacteria blight and fusarium. The potatoes at the station are looking very good at this time. All plots have received two cultivations since the heavy rain of last week. Today, we are spraying all plots for the potato flea beetle, using Bordeaux mixture and calcium arsenate.

(W. C. Edmundson).

Presque Isle, Me. Notes. July 10, 1928.

The weather for the past week has been very hot and dry. Rain is needed for all growing crops.

Spraying with poison for bugs and Bordeaux mixture for the control of blight began in earnest this week. Early blight has been found in a few fields In Aroostook, Alternaria (early blight) very rarely develops to the point where it causes severe damage.

On Aroostook Farm and adjacent plots we are spraying with Bordeaux mixture and calcium arsenate. Potato bugs are not plentiful but there are enough to call for an application of poison.

As mentioned in earlier notes the county agents of the several counties are to visit the various lines of werk on Aroostook Farm, July 14.

(P. M. Lombard).

Washington, D. C. Notes. July 13, 1928.

The writer has spent most of this week in preparation of planting experiments on the Arlington Experimental Farm, Va. next week.

The potato vines in the experiments planted in April on the Arlington Experimental Farm are beginning to mature and a high yield is expected.

(Walter M. Peacock).

Washington, D. C. Notes. July 13, 1928.

The weather for the past week has been rather oppressively warm and dry. Thunder showers Wednesday evening and rain Rhursday night and Friday morning has served to temper the heat and provide much needed moisture to the growing crops. It is pleasantly cool this forenoon and generally cloudy thus far. The writer planted some tuber-indexed Jersey Red Skin potatoes on the 12th and plans to make the third planting of this variety July 14 in a planting date experiment to determine the approximate time of planting the Jersey Red Skin to get the largest yields. A fourth planting will be made on July 26.

Potato tours.- The following potato tours are scheduled for July and August. (1) Itinerary of Louisiana's annual interstate potato tour of certified Triumph seed producing sections:- July 16-21 in Colorado; July 23-28 in Idaho; August 1-10 in Montana; August 13-17 in Nebraska; (2) Red River Valley in Minnesota and North Dakota July 31 to August 2; (3) Michigan August 6-11, (4) Bill Spud- Soo Line tour, August 6-15, (5) Western Nebraska State tour, August 13-16, (6) Wisconsin tour, August 13-18. The popularity of the potato tour seems to be increasing rather than diminishing and may be construed as an indication of a greater interest on the part of potato growers in good seed potatoes.

Carlot movement and prices.- While there has been some reduction in the daily carlot shipments there has not been a corresponding price reaction, in fact the price is lower, if anything, than it was last week. Wednesday, July 11, quotations at Pocomoke City, Md. on U. S. No.1 Irish Cobblers in cloth top stave barrels was $1.10 to $1.15. It is quite possible that the present northeastern shipping areas being within trucking distance of consuming centers may be moving a considerable volume of potatoes through that medium of transportation. This may partly explain failure of market to react to lighter carlot movement of crop.

In a letter received this week from the office of the commissioner for Australia, located in New York City, the writer was advised that a representative of Victoria, Australia was due to arrive in New York at an early date. He is commissioned by his government to investigate the industrial utilization of potatoes in this country with a view to the establishment of a potato by-product factory in Victoria.

(Wm. Stuart).

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PLANT INDUSTRY

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WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

JUL 21 1928

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. July 16, 1928.

The weather has been fair the greater part of the week, with occasional thunder showers. The temperature has been relatively high.

Monday and Tuesday all experimental plantings were sprayed for the potato flea beetle, the spray being a combination of 5-5-50 Bordeaux mixture and calcium arsenate. All potatoes, with the exception of the medium-late and late irrigated plots of the irrigation experiment, were watered on Friday or Saturday. The potatoes have made a very strong vine growth this year.

Saturday afternoon was spent visiting the early potato section south of Greeley. Growers in that section have begun to harvest the first of the early crop. Growers are now harvesting their Early Ohios. The Cobblers and Triumphs will not be dug for ten days or two weeks. The early crop is not yielding quite as well as last year. The best yields so far have been about 200 bushels per acre. The early crop is mostly all marketed by truckers. Saturday truckers were paying $1.25 per hundred and were disposing of the crop in Denver for $1.50 per hundred.

Mr. Fred S. Pratt, Manager of the Farmers Potato Company of East Grand Forks, Minn., was a visitor at the Station this week. Last week Mr. Ernest J. Wheeler of the Horticultural Department, Michigan Agricultural College, was a visitor at the Station.

(W. C. Edmundson).

Presque Isle, Me. Notes. July 17, 1928.

The weather for the past week has been very hot and humid; numerous showers have interferred to some extent with field operations but we have put on our third application of Bordeaux mixture and our plots, with few exceptions, have been rogued for the second time.

The county agents of the State visited Aroostook Farm, July 14, as per schedule. The day was very wet. However, after ten o'clock most of the plots, both State and Federal, were inspected.

Today on Aroostook Farm the State Inspection Service organized their crews under the leadership of Mr. Newdick, Stetson and Commissioner of Agriculture Washburn. Some time was devoted to inspection of the disease plots of the pathological division.

The use of sal soda in place of lime in making Bordeaux mixture is on the increase in this section. Those who have used it over a period of years claim for it as good control over late blight as where lime is used.

On August 15 the annual Farm Bureau Field Day will be held on Aroostook Farm. The principal speaker will be Mr. Wayne Densmore, Secretary of the Horse Association of Chicago, Ill.

(P. M. Lombard).

Washington, D. C. Notes. July 20, 1928.

In cooperation with Bailey E. Brown and R. C. Wright, the writer has spent the week at Arlington Experimental Farm, Va. planting potato experiments.

The potatoes planted early are maturing slowly and every indication points to a large yield even though the weather has been extremely hot for the last two weeks.

(Walter M. Peacock).

Washington, D. C. Notes. July 19, 1928.

The weather is still too warm for comfort. Copious rains the latter part of last week prevented our making the third planting of Jersey Red Skin on the 14th as originally intended This planting was made on the 17th. The fourth and final planting is scheduled for July 30. High temperatures coupled with an abundance of soil moisture have served to hasten the growth and maturity of crops in general.

Carlot movement and prices.-Not much change has occurred in the past week in regard to the volume of potatoes shipped or the price received at shipping point. If anything the price is just a shade better than was reported for last week. Tuesday's quotations at Pocomoke City, Md. for U.S. No.1 Irish Cobblers in cloth top stave barrels were $1.25 per barrel for the best stock.

The New Jersey potato growers are to enjoy the advantage of a State branch market reporting office with headquarters at Hightstown. The duties to be performed by this office are expected to be three-fold:- (1) Supply daily information on the market situation through telephone and other means; (2) back up the inspection service and to cooperate with dealers and growers in enforcing sales as they were originally made and (3) to act as a clearing house for information. It is expected that this service will go into effect when the first New Jersey potatoes go on the market. The New Jersey potato prospects, according to G. W. Harris, associate editor of the "Pennsylvania Farmer", are for a bumper crop and a low price.

(Wm. Stuart).

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THE EYE

WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

JUL 28 1928

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. July 23, 1928.

The weather has been cloudy and rainy the greater part of the past week, heavy rains falling on five days out of the seven. Most every day has brought hail storms to some section of the district. Wednesday a heavy hail storm occurred at the Station and vicinity. The potatoes received another severe set-back as a result of this storm, but with favorable weather conditions the potatoes will make a rapid recovery and should produce a satisfactory yield.

The late crop of potatoes in the Greeley district is looking fair to good at this time and with proper weather conditions will produce a normal yield.

The early crop is being harvested and growers are receiving $1.00 to $1.25 per hundred.

A trip was made to the dry land farming area Friday. The potatoes in that section were found to be generally good although some poor fields were noted. There is a considerable quantity of seed being grown in the dry land area, mostly Triumphs.

The bean fields were looking very promising. Beans in the dry land area are now being seeded in the bottom of a listed furrow and the soil cultivated toward the row as the plants become large.

A new method of harvesting grain was noted on some farms. In order to harvest the grain before it becomes entirely ripe some farmers are now using a wind-row machine which cuts the grain and lays it in a narrow wind-row on the stubble. After the grain is cured or has finished ripening it is picked up by a combine harvester with a special attachment for gathering up the cut grain. Grain in the dry land area is planted in deep furrows fourteen inches apart. The deep planting protects the grain from the wind and more moisture is available to the plants than when the grain is planted shallow.

(W. C. Edmundson).

Presque Isle, Me. Notes. July 24, 1928.

The weather for the past week up to Monday was hot and dry. Monday it rained all day and today it has been very cloudy.

Conditions have been very favorable for the development of late blight on potatoes for several days. One field in Caribou is reported to be badly infected.

Dr. Wm. Stuart arrived Monday morning to spend a week in this section.

Very favorable conditions for vine growth recently have given a decided change for the better to potato fields that earlier showed a very ragged appearance. Fields that had a heavy per cent of missing hills now appear to have a good stand.

Dr. Longley of Washington, who has been with us a week to study the chromosomes in potato varieties left for Washington tonight.

(P. M. Lombard).

Washington, D. C. Notes. July 27, 1928.

If high temperature is the gauge of summer weather it has prevailed during the past week and with only .14 of an inch of rainfall.

The potato plants in early planted experiments at Arlington Experimental Farm, Va., are maturing rapidly. It was noted Monday that there were considerable differences in the degree of maturity resulting from various seed treatments in storage before planting. Harvesting of these experiments will begin next week.

The shipment of potatoes is heavy. During the week ending July 24, there were 5 465 carloads shipped which is 1300 cars heavier than a year ago. Eastern Shore, Va. and Maryland is credited with 3625 cars. The writer was told by a representative of this potato region that between 2000 and 5000 barrels of potatoes of this year's crop are in storage there and many farmers are holding them in the ground for higher prices. He also stated that the stock was running good in size and quality. Next week the Eastern Shore growers will plant potatoes for seed for the early 1929 crop. The present prices f. o. b. Eastern Shore range from $1.10 to $1.20 per barrel.

The movement of potatoes from New Jersey and Long Island is starting very slowly. The growers feel inclined to wait until Eastern Shore potatoes are not filling the markets. They know that the price cannot go much lower, if any, because the Northern growers cannot pay the freight and compete at the prevailing prices.

(Walter M. Peacock).

New York Notes. July 24, 1928.

Friday forenoon, July 20, was spent at the Boyce Thompson Institute for Plant Research. Plans were made at that time with Dr. F. E. Denny to undertake, on a somewhat larger scale than last year, the treatment of a considerable quantity of Triumph seed potatoes which are being grown for the Department at Orient, (L.I.), N. Y. It is expected that these potatoes will be ready to harvest in early August and it is planned to conduct dormancy treatment studies on them as soon as they are harvested. This work will be conducted by Dr. Denny at Orient and at the Boyce Thompson Institute. It is proposed to send the material to several localities where germination and yield tests will be made.

(Wm. Stuart).

Rhode Island Notes. July 24, 1928.

Saturday forenoon, July 21, was spent at the Rhode Island Experiment Station, Kingston, R. I., in taking notes on some of the Department's seedling potatoes which are being tested by the Station. Mr. S. C. Damon who has charge of the cultural care of these potatoes has, as in the past, given the seedlings the best of care and they have as a whole made a satisfactory growth. Some of the seedlings seem to be promising although the majority of them will prove to be too late maturing varieties for that section. Some splendid plots of Irish Cobbler and Green Mountain potatoes were noted. Interesting studies regarding the effect of different crops in a crop rotation series upon succeeding crops, effect of liming soil, combinations of fertilizers, etc. are to be noted by the visitor.

(Wm. Stuart).

Presque Isle, Me. Notes. July 24, 1928.

The writer arrived at Presque Isle, Me. Monday morning and since that time has been occupied in studying the various phases of potato work that are being conducted on Aroostock Farm and adjacent farms.

Rain yesterday afternoon prevented field note taking but afforded an opportunity to get the field planting recorded in the notebook. While today was overcast part of the time, the weather was ideal for note taking and good progress has been made in describing the potato varieties included in the variety trial plot. It has been possible to place most of the doubtfully named varieties that have thus far been studied. This feature of our work will probably be completed tomorrow forenoon.

The potato crop in this section is farther advanced at this date than it ordinarily is. At a guess I would say from 7 to 10 days earlier than last season. There is every prospect of a large crop and the only thing that may change the present crop outlook would be a bad attack of late blight or an early freeze. Otherwise, the stage seems to be set for a heavy yield.

(Wm. Stuart).

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AUG 20 1926
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BUREAU OF
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WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

AUG 4 1928

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. July 28, 1928.

With the exception of a few thunder showers, the weather was more settled during the past week. The days and nights are noticeably cooler. There are hopes that the good weather will continue.

We are finishing cultivating all plots of potatoes today. The soil has become closely packed from the heavy rains of last week and the soil was to wet to work until the last day or two. This will probably be the last cultivation of the season.

We are spraying today for the potato flea beetle. This is the third spraying for some potatoes and the second for others. Some early blight is noticeable in the early potatoes of the district. Growers are not in the habit of spraying for early blight in this section because this disease does not make its appearance until about the time the vines begin to ripen.

Growers are receiving from $1.00 to $1.25 per hundred for the early crop.

The late crop is in good condition at this time.

(W. C. Edmundson).

Presque Isle, Me. Notes. July 31, 1928.

Rain on Monday, July 23 and Saturday, July 28, otherwise the weather has been fair with rather high winds. The nights have been very cool, suggesting that fall is not far off.

Very few reports of late blight have been reported since the last letter to "The Eye." The writer, personally, saw several fields last week which had a very small per cent of infection. Just how much late blight we shall have in Aroostook County depends on weather conditions.

Dr. Wm. Stuart, of this Office, who was with us nearly a week left Saturday for the West.

Don't forget the annual Farm Bureau Field Day on Aroostook Farm, August 15.

(P. M. Lombard).

Ithaca, N. Y. Notes. August 1, 1928.

The first annual Blue Tag Potato Tour was held on July 30 and 31 by the New York Cooperative Seed Potato Association in Cortland, Onondaga and Oswego Counties. Although there were a few guests present from New Jersey, West Virginia and Pennsylvania, most of the one hundred in attendance were from within the state. There were forty-six present from Long Island, this in itself being a real expression of the interest which the Long Island potato growers are showing in the certified seed produced in New York. Most of the twelve stops scheduled were at potato fields and potato storage houses. The seed fields were at their best and relatively little virus disease was in evidence. Much of the discussion centered around Bordeaux spraying. Dr. E. L. Nixon of Pennsylvania added much interest to this phase of the subject, and gave a very enlivening talk at Lysander in Onondaga County. A speaking program was staged in connection with a banquet on the 30th at the Onondaga Hotel at Syracuse. There is considerable interest in potato storehouse construction about the state, and several large bank storehouses under construction were visited enroute.

(E. V. Hardenburg).

Washington, D. C. Notes. August 3, 1928.

The weather has been hot and dry with the exception of a light shower during the past week.

The writer's time has been spent working in the office, taking notes on potato experiments, and assisting in the final setting up and starting a new engine potato digger at Arlington Experimental Farm, Va. The digger works well and is a big relief from digging with a plow. With a new planter and digger Arlington Experimental Farm is better equipped to conduct potato investigations than ever before.

Markets show signs of strengthening. The total shipment from all states for the week was only 3925 cars, compared with 5480 the week before and 4420 cars during the same period last year. The decrease in shipments has created a stronger demand and the prices are advancing. When the shipment becomes much greater than last week the demand begins to weaken. The prices paid for Irish Cobblers, U. S. No. 1, in cloth top stave barrels, week before last, ranged from $1.10 to $1.20 per barrel, f. o b. Eastern Shore points, and on August 1st from $1.35 to $1.50.

It is reported that there are about 2000 carloads stored on Eastern Shore and some to be dug yet. The normal consumption of potatoes shipped in cars is about 650 cars per day. At this rate the potatoes left on Eastern Shore are sufficient only for a few days. If the North will hold off from marketing potatoes until the intermediate states are through harvesting, potatoes may sell for reasonable prices this fall.

Careful grading this summer has been a big factor in keeping up the prices; although the prices have been low the chances are that they would have been lower if the potatoes had not been well graded.

According to a recent report of George L. Brist, American Vice Consul in Charge, the Province of New Brunswick is growing 1,000 more acres of potatoes for certified seed than last year.

(Walter M. Peacock).

Presque Isle, Me. Notes. July 30, 1928

Further opportunity was presented during the remainder of last week to see and to inspect several fields of potatoes planted with western Nebraska Triumphs, Prince Edward Island Irish Cobblers, and New Brunswick Green Mountains. In every instance but one the stock was almost entirely free from disease, had made a vigorous vine growth and would easily pass certification requirements. One field of Green Mountains planted with seed produced in Maine from a tuber unit seed plot which had been carefully rogued not only in 1927 but in several preceding years showed too high a percentage of mosaic to pass inspection service requirements. The interesting thing about this strain of seed is that for the past two years the grower who developed it has been offering a rather liberal money prize to anyone who could find a mosaic plant in his seed plot. Another interesting observation was made on two fields of Irish Cobbler which were claimed to have been planted with seed produced by a certain Prince Edward Island grower whose stock had been especially recommended by the writer. In one of these fields there was practically no disease and the vine growth was rated at 100 per cent; in the other, two to three per cent of the plants were showing well defined leafroll and the vigor and size of the plants could only be rated at 50 to 60 per cent. In the last example cited one is either forced to believe that the two lots of stock were not produced by the same grower or that differences in soil fertility and cultural care were responsible. It does not, however, seem possible that the latter supposition is correct. In the case of the Green Mountain we have an example of the possibility of late field infection, or as the pathologists express it, current season infection, which occurred too late to find expression in the plant and was, therefore, overlooked.

Dr. Schultz and the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station representatives have an interesting collection of seed stocks showing infection with typical forms of mosaic and other virus diseases, also with degenerative forms of non-transmissible diseases except through the seed. The most interesting and most instructive feature of these different forms of disease is that of their different reaction on different potato varieties. In some instances the disease manifestation in the plant is so different as to be difficult to diagnose it correctly. Only intimate contact with some of these forms of expression will enable one to recognize them

The writer left Presque Isle, Saturday afternoon, July 28 for Minneapolis, Minn.

(Wm. Stuart).

1.7
P693

THE EYE

WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

AUG 11 1928

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. August 6, 1928.

The first of the week another hail storm did some damage to crops at the station. The storm, however, was much more severe a mile west of the station and crops in that section were badly damaged; .55 of an inch of rain accompanied the hail storm. Thursday, .70 of an inch of rain fell. Tuesday, the seed plots at Estes were rogued. The potatoes at Estes are looking very good this year.

Wednesday, all the plots were sprayed for the potato flea beetle. The potato flea beetle is very abundant this year and the leaves are badly punctured with holes.

We finished stacking the second cutting of hay today, haying operations having been suspended since last Thursday on account of rain.

Early potatoes are selling for 75 cents to 90 cents per cwt. Most of the early crop is being hauled to market by trucks. If growers were obliged to sell to dealers and ship their potatoes, they would not receive as much for their crop as they will receive at the present time.

(W. C. Edmundson).

Presque Isle, Maine Notes. August 8, 1928.

Considerable rain and cloudy weather has prevailed for the past week. Late blight had made considerable progress on potato fields not thoroughly sprayed. We finsihed spraying our plots for the sixth time yesterday. No late blight has been observed in our plots to date.

Last Friday considerable blight was found in the check plots of the spraying experiment conducted by Dr. Bondy.

On the 15th, in addition to Mr. Wayne Dunsmore, Secretary of the Horse Association, Prof. E. V. Hardenburg of Cornell University, will give a talk at the Annual Farm Bureau Field Day meeting on Arcostook Farm.

(P. M. Lombard).

Minnesota Notes. August 5, 1928.

The Minnesota State Potato Tour began Tuesday morning, July 31, with an inspection of the potato breeding plots and variety strain tests being conducted at University Farm, St. Paul, Minn., by F. L. Krantz and A. G. Tolaas.

Some interesting comparisons with respect to seedling vigor resulting from crossing pure bred varietal or seedling strains were noted in the trial grounds. In each case the parental stock was grown on each side of the F.(1) seedling progeny. Some promising seedlings have been obtained which have a greatly superior yielding capacity to that of their parents or of the leading commercial varieties grown in this locality. In the variety strain tests two strains of Triumphs had been dug by hand in order to show the wide variations in yield from good and poor strains of seed. The promising seedlings are being grown at the Northeastern Substation near Duluth and at the Northwestern Substation at Crookston, Minn.

On completion of the inspection of the potato breeding and improvement work those in attendance proceeded by auto to the early potato producing sections to the north and west of Minneapolis. The first stop was made near Osseo where an opportunity was given to observe the harvesting of a good field of Early Ohio and also of inspecting the operation of a potato washing machine at a track-side warehouse in Osseo. The inventor of this machine is developing quite a demand for well-graded, washed potatoes, put up in 20 and 50 pound sacks made of similar material to that used in the marketing of onions. The open mesh allows the purchaser an opportunity to see the quality of the stock. In one respect, however, this type of sack is not desirable as it exposes the contents to too much light thereby affecting the table quality of the potatoes.

Stops were made all along the way from Osseo to Elk River. Two outstanding fields of Irish Cobblers and of Triumphs were noted on the farms of George Gostley near Anoka and Harry Dickey of Elk River.

While the day's tour ended at Anoka those who intended to take in the tour/following day drove to Bemidji the same evening. The writer left the party at St. Cloud to proceed by rail to Moorhead to attend a local potato tour in Clay County the following day. Wednesday's tour took in the territory adjacent to Moorhead including Glyndon, Dilworth, Sabin and other points. Some very good Irish Cobbler and Triumph fields were noted. It was interesting to observe the marked improvement in the quality of the seed stock now being planted on many farms in this section. While a considerable part of this is due to the introduction of high grade Irish Cobbler seed from Prince Edward Island and of similar quality Triumph stock from Montana, Nebraska and North Dakota it must still be admitted that a large share of it is due to the development of Minnesota seed stocks as is evident in the Wold strain of Irish Cobbler and the Sanders strain of Triumph. In our judgment the introduction of foreign seed accomplishes two purposes,- that of the immediate acquirement of good seed, provided good judgment has been exercised in its selection, and a competitive stimulation to improve existing strains of seed stock within the state. The engagement of large seed companies in the production of

certified seed potatoes is also contributing greatly to the development of improved seed. After luncheon which was served in the Dilworth Community Club building,an hour or more was occupied in listening to remarks by various members of the party. Some of the interesting seed potato improvement features noted on the trip were:-

(1) Special seed breeding plots for the development of tuber lines of the Irish Cobbler and Triumph.

(2) Multiplication fields of improved strains of seed.

(3) Comparative merits of the organic mercury compounds in the control of scab, blackleg and rhizoctonia as compared with the hot formaldehyde or corrosive sublimate solutions.

(4) Greening seed before planting .

(5) Fields showing results of rolling and packing the soil.

(6) Fields showing the results of no tillage prior to the emergence of the potato plants and of fall and spring plowing

One of the things that impressed the writer most forcibly was that of the character of the seed stock used by one of the largest potato growers in the territory covered. Four hundred acres had been planted by this party with seed that contained practically every disease known to the potato and in addition a large per centage of varietal mixture. It seems inconceivable that in a community in which a special effort is being made to produce good seed there should be found one who apparently is indifferent to the character of seed he plants. A few years ago such a grower may have been regarded as a successful grower, in fact, such is the case in this particular instance. According to his sales records from 1911 to 1926 inclusive, this particular party has averaged to receive $1.066 per bushel for the crops he has grown, and during that period has never grown less than 360 acres in any season.

The general stand in this part of the Red River Valley is poor. Failure to get a good stand is thought to be due in many instances to the planting of the seed during a hot dry period. Heavy rains following the dry period were responsible for further losses through the drowning out of the plants. Experienced growers and dealers estimate a lower production in this part of the Valley than in 1927.

The third day of the State Potato Tour was held in the eastern part of Polk County, Thursday, August 2. This proved to be the most largely attended of any during the trip. The day was ideal and the itinerary of the tour was carried out as per schedule. At 8:30 the party proceeded from East Grand Forks to the farm of J. P. Kennedy where opportunity was given to observe fields of Triumph, Prince Edward Island/Irish Cobblers and Early Ohio.

All of the seed planted had been treated with hot formaldehyde. The next stop was at a field of Prince Edward Island Irish Cobblers where the cultural methods employed were explained by manager, Chas. Barkin. AnIrish Cobbler field was the object of the third stop. Hill unit seed plots of Irish Cobbler and the Early Ohio were studied on the farm of Adolph Skyberg where lunch was served. At the Wurden Bros. home farm an opportunity was afforded to study a field of Triumph in which it was claimed that no mosaic had been found in the seed stock during the past two seasons. In another field demonstration rows of certified Irish Cobbler and Early Ohio had been planted side by side with spindle tuber stock. This provided an excellent opportunity to observe the effect of this disease on the plants. On Knut Johnson's farm a field of Early Ohio was inspected in which no disease has been detected in the seed stock for the past two seasons. An especially fine field of Triumph was noted on O. A. Flaat's farm which was next to the last farm visited in the eastern side of the county. Two fields were visited in going to Crookston, one near Climax and the other near Nielsville. Of the impressions gained during the day perhaps the strongest were the great improvement that is being made in the seed stock, the better cultural care that is being given to the crop and the sincere interest taken by the growers in attendance in improved cultural practices. The potato stand in Polk County appeared to be more generally better than in Clay County. Owing to heavy rains in Kittson County the last day of the State tour, which was scheduled to be held in that county, was abandoned.

On Friday, Prof. Close, Jens Uhrenholdt and the writer went to Thief River Falls to study a variety that is being grown in that section for the California seed trade. This variety is variously known as Wisconsin Pride, Minnesota Burbanks, Fish Lake Bumpers, White Rose, etc., and on that account it was desired to make a more careful study of it. Our previous identification of this variety as the American Giant was confirmed. Two representatives of the Zuckerman Bros. of Stockton, Calif., furnished transportation for the party and took us to several farms on which they are conducting seed improvement work. Tuber index tests are made under glass on the Zuckerman Bros. ranch near Stockton and the indexed material is being grown in a seed plot at Thief River Falls. The American Giant is especially susceptible to mosaic and the problem of securing disease free seed is an exceedingly difficult one. The variety also presents difficulties in the recognition of spindle tuber. This is due to the fact that plants of the American Giant as they attain full size naturally develop axillary shoots which are more or less slender and to some extent simulate the appearance of plants having spindle tuber. The Zuckerman representatives, Messrs. Rosenfels and Thompson, are fully alive to the difficulty of their problem and are planning more carefully controlled tuber index studies this coming winter. Mr. Rosenfels is now on his way to Berkeley, Calif. Mr. Thompson is to remain at Thief River Falls until the crop is harvested and shipped.

On Saturday a local potato tour was held in the eastern part of Polk County, principally in the vicinity of Fosston, where, according to C. L. Fitch, the growers are establishing a reputation for the production of high yielding and good table quality Irish Cobbler seed potatoes. Some very

good fields were noted but in most cases they did not compare in size and vigor of plants with some of the best fields in the western part of the county or in the other sections of the state visited during the tour. County agents Aamodt, of the eastern part of Polk County, and Idste, of the western part, are doing everything possible to encourage the production and use of high grade seed. Mr. Aamodt and Fred S. Pratt of the Farmers' Potato Co. of East Grand Forks, Minn. were largely responsible for the success of Thursday's tour, and Mr. E. M. Gillig, seed potato specialist of the seed firm of Leonard, Crossett and Riley, Inc., for the successful conduct of the Clay County local potato tour.

(Wm. Stuart).

Washington, D. C. Notes. August 10, 1928.

The temperature has been high all the week and the total precipitation about one inch. This rainfall came down so fast that it ran off the hillside where the late potato experiments, conducted by R. C. Wright, B. E. Brown and the writer, are planted. The ground is still dry around the seed pieces. The lack of moisture and hot sun have killed many of the tips of the growing sprouts near the surface. The surface soil temperature has been recorded as high as 112 and 116 degrees F. The slope is towards the west so the temperature remained high late in the afternoon. Many of the seed pieces with the injured sprouts are germinating again. With a late fall and favorable growing conditions from now until frost a good yield may be harvested.

The writer has not only spent the entire week at Arlington Farm but has been arriving there one hour ahead of office hours and staying about one-half hour later in the evening.

Notes were taken on the late potato experiments Tuesday. The remainder of the writer's time has been spent harvesting the early planted experiments and working on storage problems in cooperation with R. C. Wright. The highest yields in the early planted experiments have gone over 400 bushels per acre.

A delegation of farmers representing Franklin County Farm Bureau, Pennsylvania, visited Arlington Experimental Farm on Wednesday. There were 168 automobiles and one large bus in the line. This was the largest delegation that the Arlington Experimental Farm has ever welcomed. Many made remarks about the good looking automobiles and other appearances resulting from good farming. There were several potato growers in the delegation who had made the Pennsylvania 400-Bushel Club. After a picnic luncheon addresses were given by Superintendent E. C. Butterfield, who welcomed the visitors and gave them the history of the farm and outlined the various lines of investigation work being conducted; W. J. Morse, who spoke on soy beans and cowpeas; E. A. Hallowell, on clovers and alfalfas and Walter M. Peacock, on potatoes.

Much credit is due to the County Agent, Congressman Beers and other leaders in Franklin County Farm Bureau Organization of Pennsylvania for getting the hearty cooperation of its members and the splendid way the delegation was handled. Superintendent Butterfield and his assistants also share

in the latter at the farm. The delegates expressed their appreciation and enjoyed their visit at Arlington Experimental Farm.

Carload shipments have declined during the week, but the price has not increased accordingly. The carload shipment is not a good gauge as to the amount of potatoes being marketed because New Jersey and Long Island are trucking them to the nearby markets. On Tuesday, New Jersey Irish Cobblers, U. S. No.1 in 150 lb. sacks sold for $1.60 to $1.75 and Kaw Valley, Kansas Irish Cobblers, U. S. No.1 for 50¢ to 60¢ per 100 lb. sack at farmers' shipping points.

On the New York market New Jersey and Long Island Irish Cobblers, U. S. No.1 were sold for $2.00 to $2.25 per 150 lb. sack. The New Jersey stock sold for less in Philadelphia, $1.85 to $1.95 per 150 lb. sack. Eastern Shore cloth covered stave barrels, Irish Cobblers U. S. Grade No.1, sold $1.75 to $2.10 on the Philadelphia market and poor grades for $1.50 per bbl.

Due to the higher freight rates from distant points the price of potatoes in the eastern markets should increase. Growers will find it beneficial to market only potatoes of high quality and to be careful not to glut the market. Furthermore, the late crop is far from being made yet.

(Walter M. Peacock).

1.9
P693

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THE EYE

WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

AUG 18 1928

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. August 11, 1928.

The weather during the first part of the week was about normal for this season of the year. The last three days have been very hot.

The writer left Greeley Wednesday to attend Visitor's Day at the Colorado High Altitude Station, which is located at Avon, Colo. The trip from Denver to Avon was made with President Lory of the Colorado Agricultural College; Director C. P. Gillette and Mr. L. D. Sweet. The High Altitude Station has an elevation of 7700 feet. It was established primarily as a demonstrational farm for vegetable crops. Some experimental work, however, is being conducted. Peas, lettuce and potatoes are the principal crops being grown this year. The peas are being grown both for the green peas and the seed. A five acre field of Peachblow and a ten acre field of Russet Burbanks were being grown on a field basis. A test plot of 200 varieties of potatoes was inspected by the visitors. The potato work was discussed by Mr. C. H. Metzger. Mr. Metzger explained that the test plot contained varieties from the United States, Canada and South America. Many duplications were noticed in the test and much disease was in evidence.

A program was given at one o'clock at which time Dr. Sandston explained the work of the station. Mr. W. H. Olin, Agricultural Supervisor for the D. & R. Railway Company, was in charge of the program. After the conclusion of the program, the writer had an opportunity to inspect a car of green peas which is being packed for shipment to New York. The car contained 460 crates. The crates contained from 40 to 50 pounds of peas which were packed together with 25 pounds of ice.

It was learned that growers were being paid four cents per pound for their peas. The early crop of lettuce has not been very good in the mountain section this year. Much of that crop is infected with tip burn. It is reported, however, that the late crop gives promise of being much better.

County Agent Stuart of Montevista, informed the writer that there had been two frosts in the San Luis Valley in the month of July. The frosts did some damage to the potato vines, beans and other crops. Mr. Stuart reports that there is considerable blackleg in the potatoes in the San Luis Valley this year.

The writer expects to leave for Nebraska, Sunday night or Monday morning, to attend the Western Nebraska Potato Tour.

(W. C. Edmundson).

Presque Isle, Me. Notes August 14, 1928.

The weather has been cold and wet for the past week up to Sunday. Monday and today are very hot. The temperature at Aroostook Farm today was 87.

Mr. B. E. Brown and Dr. Hoagland from Office of Soil Fertility arrived Wednesday morning to take notes on fertilizer plots on Aroostook Farm and those in Mapleton. Both left on the night train Saturday for New York.

Both Federal and State men have been busy for several days getting ready for the Annual Farm Bureau Field Day which is scheduled for Wednesday, August 15.

Grain is ripening rapidly and with continued dry weather should be ready to harvest in a week.

Late blight is not spreading very rapidly. The hot weather we are having for a few days should hold it in check.

(P. M. Lombard).

Washington, D. C. Notes. August 17, 1928.

Two rain and wind storms have been recorded here during the past week. The 40-hour rainfall which ended at 9 o'clock last Sunday night sets a record for all time in this locality with a total of 8.67 inches of water. The 24-hour period of Saturday night and Sunday, when the storm was at its height shattered all records with a fall of 6.64 inches. The greatest previous 24-hour rainfall was on August 12, 1898, when there was a fall of 4.96 inches. The second storm began last night and since the start 2.00 inches of rainfall has been recorded at the Arlington Experimental Farm, Va. This makes a total of 10.68 inches for the week. The forecast for today and tomorrow is showers, according to the U. S. Weather Bureau Forecaster, who stated that the remnant of the second storm would hang over this vicinity during this period.

The late potato experiments being on a hillside have been injured by the downpours of these two storms. However, a fair yield is still expected from most of the experiments.

One experiment was planted with fine looking Green Mountains shipped from Maine last April. The seed pieces from these potatoes have germinated well and seem to lack vitality in comparison with others planted the same day and under similar conditions.

Shipments, Markets and Prices.

Eastern Shore, (Maryland and Virginia) is the heaviest shipping section with New Jersey a close second and Kansas third.

On Wednesday the New Jersey Irish Cobblers, U. S. Grade No.1, were selling for $1.50 per 150 lb. sack in car lots f. o. b. shipping points. Irish Cobblers, U. S. Grade No.1 sold for 50-55 cents per 100 lbs. in sacks f. o. b. carloads at the Kaw Valley shipping points.

In Philadelphia, Pa. U. S. No.1 East Shore Virginia, cloth top stave barrels Irish Cobblers, branded, sold for $1.85; New Jersey 150 lb. sacks Irish Cobblers $1.60.

On the Chicago market Missouri and Kansas sacked Irish Cobblers, U. S. No.1 sold for 75 to 85 cents per cwt. and Eastern Shore Irish Cobblers in cloth top stave barrels, U. S. No.1 $2.65.

New York Market- New Jersey Irish Cobblers, U. S. No.1 in 150 lb. sacks sold for $1.65 to $1.75 and Eastern Shore stock of the same grade and variety in barrels, best $1.75-$2.00 and poorer $1.25-$1.50.

The outlook is not bright with a forecast of 459,737,000 bushels according to conditions of August first against 406,964,000 the last year. The largest expected increases in the late producing states are- Michigan with an increase of 11,418,000 bushels over last year; Wisconsin 9,618,000 bushels; Pennsylvania 4,900,000 bushels; Colorado 2,867,000 bushels; New York 2,239,000 bushels; Minnesota 1,445,000 bushels; Maine 1,412,000 bushels and West Virginia 1,313,000 bushels over last year's production.

(Walter M. Peacock).

Holland, Minn. Notes. August 11, 1928.

The celebrated Hollandale district in Minnesota was visited on Monday, August 6 by C. P. Close and the writer. On the 15,000 acres of peat, muck and mineral soils reclaimed by the Payne Investment Company some 7500 acres of potatoes are being grown this season of which approximately 1500 acres have been entered for certification. The heavy rains of the previous week which were officially reported as amounting to 5.97 inches in 48 hours resulted in serious damage to certain areas of potatoes and celery. No official estimate of the acreage injured or completely destroyed had as yet been made but it would probably not exceed over from five to seven per cent. The condition of the crop outside of the damage caused by the flooding of certain areas was fairly good as a whole. On the other hand there was ample evidence of the deterioration of the stock as a result of the presence of too high a percentage of spindle tuber. Except in the case of where new lots of certified Irish Cobbler and Triumph seed had been planted most of the acreage planted with Hollandale grown seed will not pass certification. Rhizoctonia has been unusually severe this season and in many of the fields examined it was quite evident that it had materially reduced the potato set. Rhizoctonia soil control measures constitute, in my judgment, an important challenge to the plant pathologist, soil biologist, bacteriologist or chemist looking toward the discovery of some practical method of destroying this fungus in the soil and at the same time not injuring beneficial soil flora.

Thanks are due to Mr. Ben Picha, who is in charge of the potato project on the Hollandale tract, for making it possible for us to see a considerable part of the potato acreage and to meet some of the growers. A number of fertilizer tests are being conducted to determine the most profitable amounts to use and also a proper balance of the three essential plant food elements. In our return from Hollandale by bus to St. Paul we were afforded an opportunity of viewing the devastation wrought by a cyclonic storm in the vicinity of Rosemount, some two hours previously.

(Wm. Stuart).

North Dakota Notes. August 13, 1928.

On Tuesday evening, August 7, the writer joined the Soo Line Potato Tour Special at Minneapolis. This tour, which was jointly sponsored by the Albert Miller & Company of Chicago and the Soo Line Railway left Chicago the night before. The object of the tour was to acquaint representatives from states dependent upon upon northern-grown seed potatoes with a rather extensive seed potato producing project in territory contiguous to the Soo Line in North Dakota.

The tour was unique in respect to its manner of transportation in that the party traveled from one point to another in the potato territory in a special train consisting of pullman cars and diner, as well as the private cars of some of the railway officials. Vice president Frank R. Newman accompanied the party throughout the trip.

The first stop was made at Leal, North Dakota, Wednesday morning, August 8, where the party found automobiles in waiting to transport them to the potato fields selected for visitation. Four farms were visited in the forenoon on which several strains of Triumph were being grown to determine their relative merits for foundation stock. One strain of Early Ohio was also noted.

Fertilizer studies to determine the requirements of the soils as regards nitrogen, phosphorous and potash and the approximate amount necessary to secure maximum yields were also being conducted on all four farms. On return from this inspection trip the party again boarded the train and proceeded to Carrington, luncheon being served during the trip. The same transportation accommodations were found at Carrington and five potato fields on as many farms were inspected. In the Carrington sections several strains of Irish Cobbler are being grown. Prince Edward Island and Minnesota were the sources of seed supply. In three of the five fields visited the hot formaldehyde seed treatment was being compared with untreated seed. Generally speaking, better stands had been obtained from the treated seed. The day was concluded with an evening program in Carrington's city park at which a number of short addresses were made and several selections rendered by an impromptu quartet composed of members of the party. The enjoyment of the occasion was further enhanced by a band concert in the earlier part of the evening.

During the night the train proceeded to Harvey and on Thursday morning the good people of Harvey and vicinity were on hand with their automobiles. Four potato fields were inspected in the forenoon affording an opportunity to study the behavior of Irish Cobbler, Early Ohio and Triumph. A 75-car capacity potato warehouse is under construction by the Albert Miller & Co. at this point. This will make possible the storage of seed stock under favorable conditions.

On the return of the party those continuing the trip boarded the train and proceeded to Minot and from there by auto to Burlington in the vicinity of which several potato fields were visited to study the behavior of Minnesota state certified Irish Cobblers, North Dakota state certified Triumph and Early Ohio and common stock of these two varieties. A plot of Green Mountains was also noted in which two varietal mixtures were rather abundant. Neither of these mixtures could be identified. During the night the train proceeded to Anamoose. Two fields containing Irish Cobbler, and Triumph stock, both certified and uncertified, were inspected in the forenoon. The party spent the afternoon at the Moorhead Farms about six miles out of Anamoose. Some 325 acres of potatoes are being grown on one of the three farms composing a 5000 acre tractowned by E. P. Moorhead of Minneapolis. Extensive fertilizer and seed treatment tests are being conducted on this place; 5 and 7 acre plots are being used for each fertilizer application. The Armour Fertilizer Co. of Chicago is furnishing the fertilizer and assisting in the tests and the E. I. Dupont Co. supplied the organic mercury compounds for the seed treatment plots.

A 90-car capacity potato storage warehouse is under construction at Anamoose by the Albert Miller & Co. according to plans furnished by the Agricultural Department of the Soo Line. It will embody some of the more advanced conceptions of a perfect seed potato storage house.

Owing to other engagments the writer was obliged to leave the potato tour at this point. Of the impressions received on this trip perhaps the strongest was that of the magnitude of the seed potato enterprise undertaken by the Albert Miller & Co. and its possibilities, if properly conducted. The project as a whole furnishes several object lessons among which are the necessity of isolating individual lots or strains of seed. The care necessary to exercise in the securing of proper foundation stock and the absolute necessity of the seed plot as an adjunct to commercial seed production.

(Wm. Stuart).

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WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

AUG 25 1928

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. August 21, 1928.

The writer left Greeley August 12 for Kimball, Nebr., to attend the Western Nebraska Potato Tour. Dr. Wm. Stuart met the writer at Kimball, having arrived Sunday night to attend the tour. Monday was spent in visiting potato fields in the vicinity of Kimball, fields of both irrigated and unirrigated seed being inspected. On Tuesday, fields in the vicinity of Scotts Bluff were inspected. Test plots containing samples of all seed offered for certification in Nebraska, were inspected. This planting is done to enable the inspectors to view the different strains of seed in advance of the field inspection.

Those on the tour lunched at the Scotts Bluff Experimental Station, where a few short talks were given before visiting the plots at the station. Late in the afternoon, the tour proceeded to Alliance, where we were entertained by the Alliance Chamber of Commerce at a banquet. Wednesday morning the experimental work which is being conducted by Mr. H. O. Werner and Dr. Goss, pathologist, was inspected by those on the tour. Some very interesting work is being carried on by these men in the interest of the seed potato industry of Nebraska. More detailed information regarding the tour will be found in the notes of Dr. Stuart.

Dr. Stuart and the writer left Nebraska Wednesday noon and arrived at Greeley that night. Saturday, Dr. Stuart and the writer visited potato fields in the Fort Morgan district. The Fort Morgan district produces mostly Irish Cobblers. It was found that while the crop in most districts was fully ripe, very few of the growers were digging their potatoes at this time, mostly because of the low price. It was found upon inspecting the fields, that considerable injury had been done the crop by the ravages of the wire worm. In some instances, growers reported that at least one-third of their crop had to be sorted out if a No.1 grade was made. The late crop of potatoes in the hailed area of the Greeley district is not looking especially promising at the present time. Potatoes outside of the hailed area, however, should produce a good crop.

Dr. Wm. Stuart left Greeley Monday for Washington, D. C.

(W. C. Edmundson).

Presque Isle, Me. Notes. August 20, 1928.

For four days beginning Monday the temperature was the highest that the writer has seen in Aroostook in 14 years. Friday afternoon and evening showers gave great relief and Sunday was real cool.

The annual Field Day, Wednesday, the 15th, was a great success and the largest attendance at any Field Day on Aroostook Farm; 486 cars were counted and the attendance estimated at 2000. The day was hot and dry with a fair breeze. The morning was devoted to inspection of the Federal and State Experimental work while in the afternoon speeches and demonstrations were scheduled. The majority of those in attendance brought their own

lunches which were eaten on the grounds. The local Grange operated an ice cream stand where ice cream, hot-dogs, soft drinks, etc. could be procured.

The writer expects to leave Tuesday, August 21, for points in New Brunswick and Prince Edward Island to locate seed stock.

(P. M. Lombard).

Washington, D. C. Notes. August 23, 1928.

On Tuesday night 1.1 inches of rainfall was recorded at the Arlington Experimental Farm, Va. For nearly two weeks the ground has been practically saturated. During this period of 12 days there has been 11.78 inches of rain. The atmosphere has cooled off and with a north wind clear weather should prevail for the next 24 hours or longer.

During the week the writer has taken field notes, worked on storage problems and assisted in taking the final notes and pictures of the third planting in which a detail study is being made of the effect of various fertilizers on fresh cut and suberized seed potatoes.

Shipments and Prices- The market remains dull with slow demand in most markets. The daily carload shipment in reference to the demand is misleading because at this season of the year the hauling of potatoes into market by trucks is probably at the maximum of activity. This is not only true of New Jersey and Long Island but many other sections near city markets.

On August 21 the shippers were selling the U. S. Grade No. 1 New Jersey Irish Cobblers for $1.50 per 150 lb. sack, and Kaw Valley Irish Cobblers for 50 cents per cwt. f.o.b. shipping points. Eastern Shore stock is still on all the principal eastern markets and selling for $1.50 to $2.50 per bbl. in comparison with New Jersey stock for $1.00 to $1.45 per 100 lbs.

(Walter M. Peacock).

Nebraska Notes. August 23, 1928.

The "Annual Western Nebraska Potato Tour" which was held August 13 to 16 proved one of the most interesting ever attended by the writer. The first day of the tour was held in Kimball County, with Leonard Wilson, county extension agent in charge. Several fields in the vicinity of Kimball and Bushnell were inspected and with hardly an exception the stock was found to be free enough from diseases to pass field inspection. On account of heavy rains during the earlier part of the growing season which packed the soil and induced shallower root development most of the fields visited were showing the effect of the high temperatures which had prevailed for several days and a short droughty period. If the conditions then prevailing are continued for a week or so it will result in a premature ripening of the Triumph variety which is most generally grown in the dry land sections of western Nebraska. The day's tour ended with the arrival of the party at Scottsbluff in the evening.

Tuesday's tour included the inspection of dry land and irrigated fields in Scottsbluff and Morril Counties, the tour being conducted by county agent, Phil Sheldon. One of the most interesting features of the forenoon was that of the 275 samples of certified seed planted by Experiment Station representatives on the farm of L. A. Montz, eight miles north of Scottsbluff, while the most interesting feature of the afternoon tour was that of a study of the crop rotation plots at the Scottsbluff experiment farm in which potatoes are an important crop. The effect of continuous cropping with potatoes was compared with a 2, 3, 4 and 5-year rotation in which alfalfa and sweet clover were the soil restoring agents as compared with sugar beets and other crops. The low average yield of the continuous cropped plot - about 125 bushels per acre - as compared with a four or five-year alfalfa rotation or a three-year sweet clover rotation resulting in yields of 350 bushels per acre furnished convincing evidence of the value of a proper crop rotation system in the production of a profitable crop of potatoes. Some especially fine fields of potatoes were observed during the day. Early blight was rather abundant in some fields particularly on early planted Irish Cobbler. The day's trip ended at Alliance.

On the third day of the trip fields were visited in the vicinity of Alliance in the forenoon. The experimental plats of the Plant Pathology and Horticultural Departments of the College of Agriculture of the University of Nebraska, conducted by Dr. R. W. Goss and Prof. H. O. Werner, were easily the most interesting feature of the forenoon's program. These plots contained some interesting experiments on virus disease transmission , seed disinfection treatments, date of planting tests, size of seed piece and planting distance, depth of planting yield tests of ten outstanding strains, etc. On the farm of John Nielsen,six miles east of Berea, the Western Nebraska Certified Potato Growers Cooperative is growing a six-acre foundation seed plat with various lines of seed potatoes tuber-indexed by the Horticultural Department of the College of Agriculture. There was also on this farm a four-acre increase seed plat planted with an automatic tuber unit planter. At this point Mr. Edmundson and the writer left the tour and started for Greeley,Colo. A brief stop was made at the Scottsbluff Station to study the behavior of three of the Department's seedling potatoes which are being tested at that point.

The following comments on the Triumph seed potato situation in western Nebraska may prove of interest to the readers of "The Eye". Since the writer's last participation in a Western Nebraska Potato Tour some four or five years ago it is possible to notice a very decided general improvement in the character of the seed now being produced. This is evident in its comparative freedom from injurious diseases particularly of that group characterized as virus diseases. There was also evident on the part of the growers in attendance a much more intelligent knowledge of potato diseases and a keener interest in the production of good seed. Much credit is due to the Horticultural and Pathological Departments of the College of Agriculture for the seed potato improvement noted. The Nebraska Certified Potato Growers Cooperative, through its energetic manager, Wm. Morrow, is also exerting a marked influence in the development of the seed potato industry.

(Wm. Stuart).

Colorado Notes. August 23, 1928.

August 16 to 18 was devoted to the inspection of potato fields in the Greeley and Fort Morgan districts and to an examination of the experimental potato work being conducted at the Colorado Potato Experiment Station near Greeley.

The crops on the Station farm have been quite seriously injured by hail storms. This is particularly true in the case of the bean crop which was totally destroyed and to a somewhat lesser extent as regards cereal crops. The alfalfa and potato crops suffered least injury. As a general thing in the hailed areas the potato crop has been sufficiently injured to cause a considerable reduction in yield and delay in the maturity of the crop. Happily some sections escaped the hail and bid fair to produce a normal crop. In the Fort Morgan district the growers have practically quit harvesting their early crop of Irish Cobblers owing to the condition of the market and the heavy grading necessary to put up a U. S. No. 1 grade. With sacked No.1 grade Irish Cobbler potatoes selling for 50¢ per 100 lb. sack f.o.b. track and a grade-out of approximately one-third of the potatoes due to wireworm injury there is little incentive to harvest the crop, as after deducting the cost of the sack, and the labor involved in harvesting, picking, grading and hauling the potatoes to shipping point there is little left to apply to production costs.

On Monday, August 20, Mr. Edmundson and the writer drove to Denver and spent an interesting hour discussing the potato situation with Mr. Lou D. Sweet All indications seem to point to a reasonably good potato crop in Colorado.

(Wm. Stuart).

SEP 4 1928

T H E E Y E

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WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

SEP 1 1928

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Washington, D. C. Notes. August 31, 1928.

Last Saturday night another storm passed over this vicinity and 1.08 inches of rainfall was recorded at Arlington Experiment Farm, Va. This makes a total of 13.90 inches for the month and breaking all previous records for one month at Arlington Experiment Farm. Uncomfortable weather has prevailed most of the week.

The potato experiments at Arlington Experiment Farm have been injured by excessive rains and high temperature.

Final germination notes have been taken on the potato experiments this week. On Monday and Thursday records were taken on the storage experiments.

(Walter M. Peacock).

Greeley, Colo. Notes. August 28, 1928.

The days have been warm during the past week, but the nights have been quite cool.

Friday, .63 of an inch of rain fell in a very short time.

All plots of potatoes were irrigated the first of the week. We are irrigating all plots again this week. This will be the last irrigation for the Triumphs. The Rurals will receive their last irrigation the first week of September. Rurals planted at the station July 19, are now making a very rapid vine growth and are beginning to set tubers.

The Weld County Fair will be held September 3, 4, and 5. We expect to prepare a potato exhibit for the fair again this year.

(W. C. Edmundson).

Washington, D. C. Notes. August 31, 1928.

High temperatures has been the prevailing weather topic this week. Washington was again subjected to a devastating rain last Saturday evening, August 25, which caused considerable damage in different parts of the city and suburban towns. At the Kiosk station on Pennsylvania Avenue 2.41 inches of rain fell in about 2 hours, while at the Weather Bureau in another part of the city only 1.51 inches of rain was recorded. Owing to heavy rains preceding the one just mentioned the land is thoroughly saturated and where it is poorly drained some damage has resulted to the late potato crop. On the whole, however, the late plantings on Arlington Farm are making a reasonably satisfactory growth.

Certified Seed Potato Acreage- A recent (Aug. 24th) release from the Boston office of the U. S. Crop Reporting Service contains a discussion of the acreage increase of certified seed potatoes. According to reports received from inspection officials in the New England States, New York and the Maritime Provinces some 63,387 acres of potatoes were entered for certification this season as compared with 48,299 in 1927 and 24,311 in 1926. All states and provinces show a material gain. Maine shows a 30 per cent increase; New Hampshire 61 per cent; Vermont 16 per cent; New York 52 per cent; New Brunswick 79 per cent; Nova Scotia 17 per cent and Prince Edward Island 28 per cent.

Analysis of the relative acreage increase of different varieties show the following per centages:- Irish Cobbler 23; Green Mountain 48; Rural New Yorker 71; Russet Rural 75. Spaulding Rose shows a 2 per cent decrease. Late blight is reported as prevalent in many fields in Maine. Virus diseases such as leafroll and mosaic have been common in Vermont and late planting was general. In New York planting was later than usual, poor stands, weed fields and virus diseases are also common. In New Brunswick all fields entered for certification were planted with certified seed. About 50 per cent of the growers treated their seed. Higher quality seed was used in Nova Scotia this year than last and a fair crop is in sight. Prince Edward Island has 31,918 acres entered for certification. This represents nearly 50 per cent of the total acreage reported. Most of the acreage was planted with extra No.1 seed stock treated with corrosive sublimate.

Carlot Movement and Prices- Relatively light carlot movements still continue but there has been practically no change in prices. Northern and southern New Jersey peints are still reporting f. o. b. sales at $1.50 per 150 pound sacks of U. S. No. 1 Irish Cobbler.

On the same date (August 28) potato quotations on delivered carloads of U. S. No.1 sacked Early Ohio at Minneapolis and St. Paul was mostly 70 cents per cwt. At Kaw Valley, Kansas points U. S. No.1sacked Irish Cobbler were selling for 55¢ per cwt.

(Wm. Stuart).

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SEP 1928
BUREAU OF
PLANT INDUSTRY

T H E E Y E

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WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

SEP 8 1928

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. September 4, 1928.

The weather for the past week has been about normal for this season of the year, with warm days and cold nights.

The Weld County Fair opened yesterday, Labor Day, with a big attendance. The exhibits are generally good this year. The potato exhibits, however, are much fewer in number and poorer in quality. The first of September is too early to exhibit the late crop of potatoes, and the growers have found it almost impossible to secure specimens free from worm track or injury from the potato flea beetle larvae. The potato flea beetle is possibly the most serious pest the growers of the district have to contend with and it appears that they are present in larger numbers during a wet season. Three sprayings at the station failed to give any noticeable control this year.

We are irrigating our potatoes today for the last time. The alfalfa land to be crowned this fall for next year's potato crop is also being irrigated.

(W. C. Edmundson).

Presque Isle, Me. Notes. September 4, 1928.

We have had very little rain since the last report. As a result late blight has not spread to any extent. During the last ten days a great many potato fields have gone down with early blight. This is especially true with the Irish Cobbler variety but even on the late varieties we have more early blight than usual.

We have finished plowing for next year's plots; sprayed our plots again and painted the greenhouse and potato house.

Two days were devoted to harvesting by hand and selecting material for exhibition at the Northern Maine Fair which opened today.

The writer, accompanied by Mrs. Lombard and Mr. and Mrs. Wallace Woodman, left Presque Isle Thursday morning, Sept. 23, via auto. for Prince Edward Island and the North Shore of New Brunswick to inspect seed potatoes. We had dinner in Fredericton, N. B. and arrived in Moncton about six o'clock, spending the night there. Considerable potatoes are raised around Fredericton and Moncton but for the most part it is table stock. We proceeded from Moncton to Prince Edward Island Friday morning arriving in the afternoon about 4:30 P. M.

Saturday morning, piloted by Mr. Peppin, who has charge of the certification work on the Island, and accompanied by Mr. W. R. Christie, one of the largest potato growers in Aroostook County, Me., we inspected several potato fields near Charlottetown.

The first field visited was that of Mr. Heath Foster where six acres of very good Irish Cobbler were inspected. This stock was located in 1917 by Mr. Poppin and first grown by Mr. McIntyre and since then has been fairly well distributed in this section.

Mr. J. A. Warren had seven acres of very good Irish Cobbler. The aphis infection was bad in this field and a small per cent of wilt was noted.

Mr. S. J. Scott had from 6 - 8 acres of very good Irish Cobbler.

Mr. J. P. Hooper has 70 acres of Irish Cobbler and 20 acres of Green Mountain. Mr. Hooper uses Bordeaux dust for the control of late blight. Apparently on the Island dust has very little control of Alternaria. Some of Mr. Hooper's fields of Irish Cobbler were already dead and his Green Mountain stock was badly infected with early blight.

On Sunday the farm of Mr. Douglas Acken at Fortune Bridge was visited. Here we saw a 40 acre field of Irish Cobbler and adjoining the Irish Cobbler 6 acres of Green Mountain. Both varieties were by far the best stock observed on the Island.

Although careful observation was made no spindle tuber disease was found in any stock inspected on the Island.

It was impossible to get in touch with Mr. Boulter, Secretary of the Potato Growers Association until Monday when a short conference was held in the forenoon.

We left Charlottetown at 1:40 P. M. Monday for the North Shore of New Brunswick, arriving in Charlo at 4:00 P. M. Tuesday. A short conference was held with Mr. Jack Hamilton at Charlo who offered to pilot us around Wednesday.

A few acres of Irish Cobbler for seed are grown below Jacquet River but for the most part Green Mountain is the only variety grown in this section. Mr. B. D. Hamilton has 15 acres of good stock. Mr. Herald Hamilton has 35 acres of Green Mountain. Mr. McIntyre has about 30 acres and Mr. William Silas has 17 acres of excellent Green Mountain stock. Only a trace of mosaic was found in any field. The field belonging to Mr. McIntyre had some late blight and one field of Mr. Silas had a very small per cent of blackleg.

In the afternoon Heron Island was visited and some of Mr. G. C. Cunningham's stock was inspected. Mr. Cunningham has 150 acres of Green Mountain and in the limited time the writer had he was unable to find a mosaic plant in this stock.

The potatoes in general in this section are much better than at this time a year ago and a much larger crop will be harvested. Very little late blight was found on this trip whereas a year ago the bulk of the stock on the mainland was dead.

Thursday morning we left for Presque Isle, Me.

(P. M. Lombard).

Lincoln, Nebr. Notes. August 29, 1928.

In a previous number of "The Eye" Dr. Stuart has given an account of the Nebraska potato tour. He was unable to attend the last day of the tour and therefore this special note is sent to "The Eye" for the purpose of calling the attention of the readers to a very practical tuber unit planting machine which has been invented by two western Nebraska potato growers,- Mr. Max Kutchara and Mr. Ed. Hoffman of Hay Springs. The machine as contrived by them is at the present time designed to work on a Keystone planter but it can be adapted to an Iron Age assisted feed planter with a slight change in design.

The potatoes are cut by being pushed down over two intersecting cutting edges. As the pieces are cut they are transferred by tubes directly over four cups of the planting chain, that is one piece into each cup. Every fifth cup is removed from the chain and this vacancy is used to operate a tripping device which drops the seed pieces into the respective cups. By this means four hill units are planted exactly with a space between. One of the very important features of this machine which render it distinct from all other schemes now being used is that the cutting edge is disinfected after each potato has been cut. This is done by connecting a compression tank filled with a formaldehyde solution by means of a rubber tube with a large oval bristle brush. The stream of formaldehyde is permitted to go through the tube so that the bristles of the brush are saturated all the time. This brush is held in the right hand of the operator and is used to push the potato over the cutting edge. After the potato has been pushed through the brush is tapped down onto the cutting edges so as to completely cover them with formaldehyde. By this means the spread of various fungous and virus diseases should be prevented. Furthermore as the seed pieces are more or less covered with disinfected material as they go into the soil, it may serve as a means of preserving the pieces and also of destroying some of the organisms in the soil which is in immediate proximity to the seed pieces.

This planter was used on two large seed fields this year. The designers report that they are able to plant 4 acres per day. The plats planted with the planter were inspected during the potato tour. The stands were practically perfect and the units could very easily be distinguished. On the basis of the appearance of the seed plat and the ease of determining the units, this machine is more serviceable than any other type of machine used for tuber unit planting that the writer has seen. The inventors plan to have this attachment patented and placed on the market.

(H. O. Werner).

Arlington Experimental Farm, Va. Notes. September 7, 1928.

The potato experiments were sprayed with Bordeaux mixture and arsenate of lead on Wednesday. The last cultivation which consisted of a slight ridging was done about the same time. This is the third cultivation since the potatoes were planted on the 17th and 18th of July. The ground has been too wet for cultivating most of the time. During the last 5 weeks there has been 16 inches of rainfall. Plenty of moisture and the cool weather of the past week are making luxuriant vine growth.

For some unknown reason streak has appeared in the Green Mountain from the Maine seed. This is practically confined to plants that came up a few days earlier than other plants from the same source of seed, planted the same day, and in the same experiment. The Green Mountain from home grown seed, planted the same day and which came up the same time as the plants affected with streak mentioned above are free from this disease. Maine-grown Irish Cobbler seed planted and grown under similar conditions are not affected with streak. The same is true with Irish Cobbler, Triumph, Early Rose, and Jersey Red Skin varieties produced from home grown seed.

Weights were taken Tuesday on one of the storage experiments.

(Walter M. Peacock).

Washington, D. C. Notes. September 7, 1928.

Thus far this month the weather has been rather cool and for the most part cloudy. Rainy weather prevailed on Wednesday and Thursday. The total precipitation recorded at the Arlington Experiment Farm was 1.9 inches. Outside of lack of sunshine and too much moisture on poorly drained land the weather has been rather favorable to the potato crop. The conditions, however, are favorable to the development of late blight and it would not be surprising if it should get a foothold in some of our commercial potato fields. Ordinarily it does not occur in this section until the latter part of September or early part of October and then only in occasional seasons. Late blight took a heavy toll of the late crop in Maryland and Virginia last season. Some of this loss might have been prevented had growers realized the presence of late blight and deferred digging until frost had destroyed the late blight spores. In 1927 most of the late blight infection occurred during the latter part of October.

Reports indicate that late blight is more or less prevalent in the New England States, New York and Pennsylvania. A few reports indicate considerable injury to the crop. Thus far, however, there does not seem to be any serious epidemic of this disease.

Carlot Movement and Prices.- The carlot movement this past week was approximately the same as that of last week. Roughly speaking the daily shipments average from 550 to 575 cars. New Jersey and Kansas are the heaviest shippers at present.

Prices.- For the past two or three weeks there has been little change in price. Tuesday's market report indicates a slightly stronger price for New Jersey potatoes. North and central Jersey f. o. b. prices at shipping point were $1.50 to $1.60, mostly $1.60 for 150 pound sacks of U. S. No.1 Irish Cobbler. At Stevens Point, Wis. the f. o. b. cash price for U. S. No.1 sacked Irish Cobbler was 65 to 70 cents per 100 pounds. Minneapolis-St. Paul prices on sacked Early Ohio U. S. No.1 and partly graded 60-65¢ per 100 pounds.

(Wm. Stuart).

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THE EYE

WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

SEP 15 1928

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. September 10, 1928.

During the past week the days have been quite warm but the nights have been cold. Today, it is cloudy and threatening rain.

Many fields of potatoes are beginning to ripen somewhat early. The early ripening, small sets, and seasonal conditions will no doubt result in a decrease in yield. Triumphs planted for the late crop are nearly ripe but most growers are planning to delay harvest for a week or two.

Farmers in the district are now cutting their third crop of hay. The third cutting will be somewhat below normal this year.

Mr. Bert C. Boree and Wendell Calhoun of the Market News Service, were among the visitors at the station this week.

(W. C. Edmundson).

Presque Isle, Me. Notes. September 11, 1928.

The weather for the past week has been exceptionally good for harvesting operations. The bulk of the grain has been cut and most of it put under cover.

The Northern Maine Fair opened Tuesday, September 4, and closed Thursday, September 6. The attendance was very good, particularly the second day. The exhibition of live stock and material in the horticultural building was fully as good as that of last year. It was rather difficult this year to get size and type in potatoes, and as a result the potato exhibit was not up to standard.

Very few potatoes were harvested this year prior to Monday, Sept.10. Irish Cobbler fields are practically all mature and harvesting operations began Monday in this section. The average well sprayed Green Mountain field is still green and will not be ready to harvest for some time. We had a rather severe frost Sunday night which killed quite a per cent of the foliage on late varieties.

On Aroostook Farm we began harvesting by hand Saturday. We have selected considerable exhibition stock from the seedlings. We shall not begin harvesting the variety collection until about the 20th of the month.

Mr. B. E. Brown of the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils expects to arrive between the 20th and the 25th to supervise the harvesting of the fertilizer plots on Aroostook Farm and those at Mapleton.

The potato market here is very dull at present and has been since the harvesting season began. Farmers are receiving 75 cents per barrel, field run. The Irish Cobbler is showing a fair yield. The crop from the late maturing varieties is going to be rather light for Aroostook.

(P. M. Lombard).

Washington, D. C. Notes. September 14, 1928.

There has been a decided change in the weather since the last issue of "The Eye." Higher temperatures and clear skies have brought about a resumption of August weather minus the heavy downpours of rain which were a characteristic feature of that month. The improved weather conditions have brought about better growing conditions in that it is now possible to cultivate the crops requiring such attention, except on very poorly drained land. It has also served to dispel, for the present at least, the fear of an outbreak of late blight. The late potato crop is making a good vine growth and gives promise of reasonable yields.

Reports indicate considerable tuber rot from late blight in some sections of Pennsylvania. Conflicting information is being received in regard to the prospective size of the potato crop in some sections. Notwithstanding the claims made by some growers that the potato crop is not as good as last year the Division of Crop Estimates September 1 forecast indicates a 466,815,000 bushel crop. It is to be hoped that the October 1 forecast will show an appreciable reduction of the September 1 figures. Such a large crop with our present consumptive demands would prove a calamity rather than a blessing to potato growers. If our per capita consumption equalled that of Ireland or some of the European countries we could easily take care of a 600,000,000 bushel crop. Our problem is to convince the consumer that the potato has a high food and dietetic value than is commonly believed. Attractively prepared articles setting forth the relative merits of the potato as compared with other table foods is deserving of careful thought by those interested in the future welfare of the potato industry.

Carlot Movement and Prices.- Carlot shipments have been somewhat heavier this week. New Jersey and Long Island points are the heaviest shippers. It is interesting, however, to note that, relatively speaking at least, there is a rather conservative movement of potatoes from all sections now harvesting the crop. This would seem to augur well for a saner handling of the crop than that of previous high yielding seasons.

Prices.- Stronger prices have prevailed this week than in many preceding ones. This rise in price is not confined to the "East" but is also reflected as far west, at least,as Denver, Colo. While there has been a slightly better market this week prices are still a long ways from being attractive to either the producer or the shipper.

(Wm. Stuart).

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WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

SEP 22 19

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. September 17, 1928.

The weather during the past week has been about normal for this time of year, with warm days and cold nights. Light frosts have been reported in some sections but as yet no frosts have occurred at the station.. The temperature, however, has dropped to 32 degrees on two different nights during the past week.

The potato situation looks about the same as previously reported. Very little digging is being done at the present time although there is a considerable acreage of Triumphs that could be harvested at any time.

We finished stacking our third cutting of hay Saturday. At the present time we are engaged in building a dyke to facilitate irrigating a small tract of land in one corner of the station farm. This particular tract of land had previously been irrigated through an inverted cyphon but the cyphon had been giving considerable trouble and would have to be rebuilt.

The potato market is very weak at the present time, dealers offering but 50 cents per cwt. for U. S. Grade No. 1.

(W. C. Edmundson).

Presque Isle, Me. Notes. September 18, 1928.

Conditions for the past week have not been very good for harvesting. We have had considerable rain which has halted operations but on the other hand the soil which was very dry is now in better condition to harvest potatoes without excessive bruising.

We have harvested most of the seedlings on Arcostock Farm. Another half day and we shall have finished the isolated plot. We still have to harvest the increase plot for distribution.

The market is very discouraging to the farmers in this section. Irish Cobbler table stock is selling for 50 cents a barrel, bulk; Green Mountain 65 cents to 75 cents. Farmers who are able to are storing their crop. The outlook is very discouraging to even the big grower. Many contracts are being canceled. Some farmers are finding it difficult to raise sufficient funds to harvest their crop.

(P. M. Lombard).

Moorhead, Minn. Notes. September 17, 1928.

In the Red River Valley of the North, there will likely be a small crop of potatoes this year. When all the digging is finished, I am sure it will be found that the crop in this section of the country will be far more than the estimates have given it so far. There was a slightly larger acreage planted but due to adverse weather conditions the yield is very much reduced.

There will, however, be a larger amount of good seed potatoes available from this section this year due to the fact that so many of the growers are using careful seed plot methods to develop foundation stock for their larger field plantings. A few days ago there was a very heavy rain again covering the bigger share of the Red River Valley and flooding the fields considerably. This, together with the fact that prices are very low this fall, is going to hold back digging for quite a while and it is reported from a number of sections that probably some of the acreage will never be dug.

Saturday evening a large meeting of farmers was held in Moorhead, the purpose of which was to inaugurate an association which will have for its main purpose the advertising of Red River Valley potatoes and to work for better grading methods and a better system of marketing. Another meeting will be held in two weeks to perfect the organization and with such a movement developed in the Red River Valley we can hope for some very fine results in the future.

(E. M. Gillig).

Washington, D. C. Notes. September 18, 1928.

On account of leaving the city this evening (Tuesday, Sept. 18) it is only possible to say that the warm weather mentioned in last week's issue prevailed up to Monday night. Today is cool, cloudy and threatening rain. Information coming to the Office indicates a rather widespread prevalence of late blight and more or less damage to the crop in Maine, Pennsylvania, New York, and in some sections of northern Wisconsin. One correspondent reports a rather heavy infection of late blight on the heavy flat lands in the Antigo, Wis. section. The extent of injury to the crop will depend very largely on whether there is much infection of the tubers. The cutting down or killing of the plants at this season of the year is not in itself very serious as the crop is pretty well developed.

Carlot Movements and Prices.- During the past few days the carlot shipments have shown a material increase. New Jersey, Colorado and Maine are now the heaviest shippers. Some price changes are also noted. A comparison of f. o. b. prices at northern and central New Jersey points for Tuesday, Sept. 11 and Saturday, Sept. 15 shows that on the former date 150 pound sacks of U. S. No. 1 Irish Cobblers were bringing $1.65 to $1.70,

while on Saturday the price was $1.50. Minneapolis and St. Paul quotations on the same dates for U. S. No. 1 and partly graded sacked Early Ohios were mostly 75¢ per cwt. with a few as low as 70¢, while on Saturday the same grade of stock sold for 80¢ and a few at 85¢ per cwt. No change in price is reported for San Luis Valley. U. S. No.1 Bliss and Brown Beauty were mostly selling for 50¢ per cwt on both dates. It is apparent, therefore, that the Eastern markets show a price depression while the Central West shows a slight advance. This is probably only a temporary situation and may be due very largely to heavy rains throughout the Central West which interrupted harvesting operations, thereby curtailing shipments.

(Wm. Stuart).

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WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

SEP 29 1926

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. September 24, 1928.

The weather during the past week has been quite warm, and although the nights have been cold, no killing frosts have occurred.

Thursday, the plots at Estes Park were harvested. Early frosts in that section had killed the potato vines. Cool, cloudy weather and some rain was encountered. The quality of the crop grown at Estes was exceptionally good this year.

Friday, we began harvesting the late planted Triumphs. The yields secured were very disappointing. The plots this year are not producing half the usual yields. Low yields, however, were expected because of the hail injury to the vines on three different occasions during the summer. All the fields in the hailed area are ripening early and it is believed the yields will be disappointing to the growers.

Dealers are paying from forty to fifty cents per cwt. for potatoes at this time.

(W. C. Edmundson).

Presque Isle, Me. Notes. September 25, 1928.

The weather for the past week has been partly cloudy with enough rain to hold up harvesting operations for two half days.

A few potato growers will finish potato harvest this week. The big growers still have a large acreage to dig. The county as a whole is not as far advanced in potato harvest as in previous years. It is believed this condition is largely due to the very low price offered since the harvesting began and also to inability to get storage.

We shall finish harvesting our experimental plots, with the possible exception of the Fertilizer Experiment on Aroostook Farm which is being conducted in cooperation with the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils, this week.

Dr. Wm. Stuart arrived Wednesday, the 20th, to assist with the harvesting of our plots and to get a general idea of the potato situation in the county. Dr. Stuart left tonight on the 5:23 o'clock train for Washington.

Mr. B. E. Brown from the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils is now due here to harvest the fertilizer plots in Mapleton and on Aroostook Farm.

The local price for table stock potatoes here has varied very little during the past week, Irish Cobblers selling from 50¢ - 60¢ a bbl. bulk, and Green Mountains from 80¢ - $1.00.

(P. M. Lombard).

Washington, D. C. Notes. September 28, 1928.

The cool weather of the past week and a sufficient amount of soil moisture are contributing to the development of a large yield of potatoes. This is especially true for those planted about the middle of July. About another month of growing weather and more rainfall will be needed to produce a maximum yield.

No evidence of late blight was observed on the writer's experiments at Arlington Experiment Farm, Va., yesterday.

Notes and samples of the storage stock have been taken during the week.

Yesterday, in cooperation with Dr. Freeman Weiss and Mr. R. C. Wright, further study of sprout tuber formation was begun.

(Walter M. Peacock).

Maine Notes. September 28, 1928.

As a result of our recent six days sojourn at Presque Isle, Me. (September 20 to 25) it has been possible to acquire some information and to arrive at certain conclusions regarding the 1928 potato crop in Aroostook County. In previous issues of "The Eye" Mr. Lombard's notes have indicated that late blight had been generally prevalent in the potato fields of northern Maine, and that it had resulted in more or less damage to the crop yield. As harvesting operations became general in Aroostook County it was possible to get a little clearer conception of the actual damage to the crop from late blight. On well sprayed fields, as might be expected, there was no reduction in yield and no tuber rot, but on poorly sprayed ones the yield has been materially decreased and the percentage of infected tubers is in many cases quite large. On such fields the yields have varied from 40 to 90 barrels per acre whereas the well sprayed and well cultivated fields are yielding from 125 to 150 or more barrels. This simply furnishes us with additional evidence of the value as well as the necessity of a religious adherence to thorough spraying throughout the growth period of the potato plant. None can afford to do otherwise if he expects to make the production of potatoes a profitable and satisfactory business enterprise.

While at Presque Isle it was possible to secure harvesting notes on the Department's variety collection grown on Aroostook State Farm and to secure exhibition seed stock. Opportunity was also afforded for a study of the character and yield of several of the more promising seedlings which have been developed by the Office of Horticulture.

On Tuesday forenoon, Sept. 25, it was possible to visit Mr. R. L. Pitcher's starch factory at Caribou, Me. According to the proprietor this factory has a capacity of 200 barrels per hour and a total starch output of between 18 to 20 tons of starch per day or 24 hours. The growers were receiving 30¢ per barrel for their unmarketable tubers which includes under and over-sized potatoes, as well as scabby and partially decayed ones. Mr. Pitcher is operating 18 starch factories in the county. Starch is now worth 3½ cents per pound.

Advices received from other sections of the country indicate considerable damage to the late potato crop from late blight and in certain localities of Minnesota there have been losses due to flooding of the land as a result of heavy rains.

While the toll taken by late blight, floods and other causes will undoubtedly reduce the marketable crop of potatoes to some extent it is not believed the reduction will be sufficient to materially affect the present price outlook.

Carlot Movements and Prices.- The carlot movement of potatoes during the past week has been considerably heavier than in the preceding month or more. For example, the daily shipments from Wednesday, Sept. 19 to Tuesday, Sept. 25, as reported by the Market News Service varied from 800 to 1033 cars. It is rather interesting to note that this increased movement has resulted in a noticeable improvement in prices in some sections and a lower one in others. For example, on Wednesday, September 19, the f. o. b. quotations on U. S. No. 1 Irish Cobbler table stock at Presque Isle, Me. was around 50¢ per bbl. (165 lbs.), whereas on Tuesday, Sept. 25, similar stock at the same point was quoted at 60-70 cents per barrel. (Note.- These prices are for bulk stock). On the same dates the Minneapolis and St. Paul f. o. b. quotations on U. S. No.1 and partly graded sacked Early Ohios was 90¢ to $1.00 per cwt., whereas on the 25th the quotations were 75 to 80¢ per cwt.

(Wm. Stuart).

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THE EYE

WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

OCT 8 1923

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. October 1, 1928.

The weather has been quite warm during the past week and, while the nights have been cool, no killing frosts have occurred.

The potato vines are ripening and many growers are beginning to harvest. Practically all of the potatoes that are being harvested are going into storage.

Sugar beet harvest started today and by the middle of the week the factory will begin slicing beets. The sugar factories will have a short run this year owing to the small acreage. Growers are already talking of increasing their sugar beet acreage next year.

(W. C. Edmundson).

Presque Isle, Me. Notes. October 2, 1928.

The weather for the past week has been very unsatisfactory for harvesting. We have had considerable rain and altogether too much cloudy weather. In this section we were held up because of rain one-half day on Monday, Wednesday, Thursday and all day Friday. However, with the exception of the fertilizer experiment in cooperation with the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils we finished our harvesting Saturday night.

Not much rot is reported and what little there is, is found on those fields where too few applications of Bordeaux mixture were applied.

On our experimental plots 8 applications of Bordeaux mixture were applied and we have never had any larger yield during the thirteen years we have had our work on Aroostook Farm.

The scientific staff of the Maine Agricultural Experiment Station are rapidly closing up their work on Aroostook Farm and most of them plan to leave this week.

Dr. E. S. Schultz, in charge of the Federal pathological work, expects to leave Thursday of this week.

The potato market is still weak. Growers received as high as $1.15 per barrel, bulk, for Green Mountain Saturday and Irish Cobbler went as high as 90 cents per barrel, bulk. However, this week $1.00 per barrel for Green Mountain is the going price and Irish Cobbler ranges from 75 - 85 cents.

A few small growers have finished harvesting potatoes but it is doubtful if half of the crop in this county is harvested on this date.

(P. M. Lombard).

Washington, D. C. Notes. October 5, 1928.

Warmer weather has prevailed this week thereby furnishing ideal growing conditions. The potato situation does not appear to be noticeably different this week from that of last. The indications all point to a large crop.

Mr. Peacock has been on the sick list this week. He is suffering from a bad cold and the after effects of an operation some three weeks ago.for the removal of infected tonsils.

Some time has been devoted to a review of the literature relating to the chemical composition of the potato, its table food value, methods of cooking, etc. With a large potato crop confronting us it is extremely desirable to make every effort possible to create a greater interest in the food value of the potato and the important place it should occupy in our dietary requirements.

Carlot Movements and Prices. There has been a considerable increase in shipments this past week. For example, on Wednesday, September 26, 805 cars were shipped, 1130 on the 27th, 1250 on the 28th, 1322 on the 29th, 942 October 1 and 1028 on Tuesday, October 2.

Prices. The f. o. b. prices at Presque Isle, Me. on Wednesday, September 26 were as follows:- U. S. No.1 Irish Cobbler, 150 pound sacks were quoted $1.00 to $1.25, while bulk material of the same variety sold for 60 to 70¢ per cwt. and Green Mountain for 70 to 80¢ per cwt., while on Tuesday, October 2, the quotations were $1.05 to $1.10 for sacked Irish Cobbler and $1.20 to $1.25 for 150 pound sacks of Green Mountain. Bulk stock of the two varieties brought 55 to 60¢ and 70 cents per cwt. respectively. On the same dates Minneapolis-St. Paul quotations were U. S. No.1 sacked Early Ohio and round whites 75-85 cents, mostly 80 cents per cwt., while on October 2 the price was 70¢ per cwt. with a few as low as 65 cents. The probability is strongly in favor of a weaker market during the next week.

(Wm. Stuart).

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THE EYE

WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

OCT 13 1928

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Greeley, Colo. Notes October 8, 1928

The weather continues to be quite warm for this time of the year and, while a few light frosts have occurred, the potato vines in the late planted fields are quite green. In spite of the immature condition of the potatoes, most growers are harvesting. The early snows and freezing weather of 1925 is no doubt partly responsible for the early digging.

The potato vines at the station are quite ripe and we are well along with our harvesting. In spite of the three damaging hail storms which visited the station this summer, some plots of Rurals are yielding about 400 bushels per acre. A few seedlings planted on a field basis also produced about 400 bushels per acre.

At the present time we are hand digging our seed plot and making hill selections.

The potato market is very dull and practically all potatoes are going into storage.

(W. C. Edmundson)

Minnesota Notes October 4, 1928

Harvesting of potatoes in the Red River Valley is considerably delayed this year for two reasons; prevailing low prices have held back the situation as well as the fact that the fields were a little too wet during September to turn out clean potatoes. This territory had very heavy rains periodically since July and the last one came just before the middle of September as I remember.

Our growers are making a special effort this year to turn out high-class and well graded seed stock. They are delaying digging as much as possible in order to turn out clean looking potatoes. A large general meeting was held about ten days ago in which the growers planned to get together and develop a program to be put to every grower in the Valley, urging him to use the greatest possible care in harvesting and putting up his seed potatoes this year. Along with that, they are planning to raise some money in order to advertise the food value of potatoes and other points that help to sell potatoes.

Their plan seems to be a very good one. It was suggested by Mr. W. G. Knowles of Leonard, Crosset and Riley, Inc. and will work out as follows: Every shipping point in the Valley that is considered an important one will collect about ten bushels of potatoes from as many growers as they can and pool them to make a carlot shipment and the proceeds from this is to be put in the General Advertising fund. We estimate that this should raise a very large amount of money even if half of the growers contribute about ten bushels. Potatoes are very cheap this year and we look for a very general response because a number have even suggested leaving some in the ground in order to lower the supply on the market.

In spite of the fact that we have had a rather wet season, I have found practically no late blight in this territory. We never are bothered with it very much and are happy to say that this year when other sections seem to be afflicted with it more or less, we are quite free from it. In my travels over the Valley, I have noticed but a few points where but a slight amount of it was found.

(E. M. Gillig)

Presque Isle, Me. Notes — October 9, 1928

The weather has been very favorable for harvesting during the past week We have had cold nights with very hard frosts but no rain to speak of until today.

On Aroostook Farm we have our material for indexing about ready and the Washington shipment will go out this week. Material tested for Mr. M. R. Ensign of the Florida Experiment Station at Gainesville will be shipped tomorrow.

Mr. B. E. Brown and Dr. Hoagland from the Bureau of Chemistry and Soils arrived Thursday night to harvest the fertilizer experiments on Aroostook Farm and in Mapleton. This work was completed Saturday afternoon and both left for points in New York state.

The potato market is still dull. The Irish Cobbler is not in much demand and the Green Mountain is selling for from 90 cents to a dollar a barrel, both graded stock. The seed trade is very dull and few orders have been placed thus far.

(P. M. Lombard)

Washington, D. C. Notes — October 12, 1928

Owing to continued warm and sunshiny weather the growing conditions for the late potato crop in this section have been ideal.

The October 1 estimate of the Crop Reporting Board, Bureau Agricultural Economics offers little comfort to the potato grower. With an estimated production of 463,722,000 bushels of potatoes the first of the month, a reduction of a little over 3 million bushels from the September 1 estimate, and with no reports of frost injury, or any serious late blight rot, it would appear as if the prospects for very much better prices were anything but encouraging.

Mr. W. P. Romans, in a circular letter recently addressed to the members of the Pacific Northwest Potato Growers Association, reports his observations based on a trip in which he visited points in five counties in the state of Washington, two counties in Idaho and five in Oregon, in which he states: "I am led to believe that the potato crop of the Pacific Northwest, when harvested, will fall below the latest estimates of the United States Department of Agriculture", and that the certified seed potato industry has been developing generally in a satisfactory way in that territory.

The following recommendations were adopted at a conference of delegates from the states of California, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nebraska, Oregon, Washington, and Wyoming, which was held at Pocatello, Idaho, September 17, 18, 1928. "It is hereby recommended: First: A portion of the potato crop be fed to livestock. Second: Only U. S. No. 1 grade, as determined by federal and state inspectors, be shipped in interstate trade. Third: That regional committees to be appointed by each of the agricultural councils or advisory boards representing the potato interests in the several states, be formed to encourage the adoption of the above recommendation. That these committees issue bulletins from time to time, giving producers a true picture of conditions and recommend procedure to be followed by growers. Fourth: That representatives of all commercial potato producing districts of the United States shall be called together in a general meeting to be held at Chicago early in December if possible. The date to be agreed upon and fixed by the district committee through the different advisory boards. Fifth: That the press and all organizations and departments of government, federal, state and county, also all farmer, civic and commercial organizations of all kinds be requested and urged to take an active part assisting in carrying out the herein mentioned recommendations." The following note is taken from the September 29 issue of the California Cultivator: "On account of low prices for potatoes farmers in Carson Valley, Nevada are feeding them to hogs as pork prices are high."

The above recommendations and suggestions are cited for the purpose of indicating the serious attention now being given to ways and means that may be adopted looking toward the most favorable and effective means of disposing of the 1928 potato crop.

Carlot movement. No material increase is noted in the daily carlot movement of potatoes during the past week. The reported carlot movements were as follows: Wednesday, October 3, 1,078; October 4, 1,244; October 5, 1,045; October 6, 1,176; October 8, 974; October 9, 1,013, or an average for the six days of 1,088 cars.

Prices. A slight downward change in prices are noted at Presque Isle, Maine and Minneapolis and St. Paul, Minnesota. For example, on Wednesday, October 3 the f.o.b. quotations on 150 pound sacks of U. S. No. 1 Irish Cobbler were $1.10 to $1.15 while on the same package and quality of stock of the Green Mountain the price ranged from $1.20 to $1.30, mostly $1.25. At the same point on Wednesday, October 10, the same package and quality of stock of Irish Cobbler were only commanding $1.05 to $1.10 while Green Mountain were quoted at $1.15 per sack. This represents a drop of approximately 10¢ per sack. Minneapolis and St. Paul prices on the same dates were as follows: Sacked round whites and Early Ohio U. S. No. 1 and partly graded 70¢ per cwt. with a few as low as 65¢ per cwt. while on October 10 on the same stock the quotations were 60¢ and 65¢ per cwt.

(W. Stuart)

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THE EYE

WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

OCT 20 1925

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. October 15, 1928.

The weather during the past three days has been cold and rainy. Today, the rain has turned to snow and has been melting as it falls. Snow and cold weather has been reported in Wyoming and Montana. Because of the wet weather, all harvesting operations have been suspended.

It is believed that about one -half the potato crop has been harvested and about one-third of the sugar beet acreage. At the station, we are well along with our harvest. All plots have been dug with the exception of the seedlings and about one acre of Rurals, which was planted July 18. During the rainy weather we have been sorting potatoes.

The market is dull and very few sales are being made. The price quoted is .45 per cwt.

(W. C. Edmundson).

Presque Isle, Me. Notes. October 16, 1928.

The weather has been quite wet for the past week. There is still some acreage of potatoes to be harvested in this county.

The market remains about the same with little demand for Irish Cobbler and Green Mountain bringing to the grower from 80 cents to $1.00 per barrel for graded stock.

We are nearly finished with our work on Aroostook Farm, and the writerplans to leave for Washington some time next week.

The Maine Station representatives, with the exception of Dr. Owen, left for Orono, Me. last week. Dr. Owen plans to leave here some time this week.

(P. M. Lombard).

Washington, D. C. Notes. October 19, 1928.

If anything the weather has been warmer this week than last. Up to last evening (October 18) the total precipitation recorded for Washington by the U. S. Weather Bureau was .06 of an inch. The average rainfall for the month is 2.84 inches. About 5:15 p. m. yesterday Takoma Park was favored with a good shower but it is not known what the total precipitation was. On account of the continued warm and dry weather the potato crop has been somewhat arrested in its development. More rain is now needed to promote optimum growth. Little of interest has occurred in the Office. Further work has been done on the clippings and translation files in order to facilitate their usefulness as a reference to potato literature abstracts.

Washington, D. C. Notes-Cont'd.

There seems to be an increasing interest in the idea of launching a nation-wide movement for the creation of a more intelligent conception of the peculiar value of the potato in the dietary of the American people. We may, therefore, expect to find more articles dealing with this subject in our newspapers, trade papers and journals.

The October issue of "Nebraska Potatoes" published cooperatively by the Nebraska Potato Improvement Association and the Agricultural College Extension Service is devoted to an interesting review of this year's diseases and Nebraska Triumphs as seen by Bermuda agriculturists. The editors of this monthly publication deserve much credit for the character of the material which they have contributed to each issue.

Carlot Movement. Carlot shipments during the past week have not varied materially from that of the past week , indicating, it would seem, that a much larger percentage of the crop is being stored than is normally practiced. This, of course, is not to be wondered at in view of the low prevailing price of potatoes. The daily carlot shipments from Thursday, October 11 to Wednesday, October 17, exclusive of Sunday, were 1119, 1045, 1121, 958, 951, 1019, an average for the six days of 1035.5 cars, or slightly less than the preceding week.

Prices. Presque Isle, Maine quotations on October 11 were $1.15 for 150 pound sacks of U. S. No.1 Green Mountain. Bulk stock was quoted at 50 to 60 cents per cwt. On Wednesday, October 17 the quotation on 150 pound sacks of Green Mountain was $1.10 with bulk stock 55 to 60 cents per cwt. At Minneapolis and St. Paul on the same dates the quotation on sacked round whites U. S. No.1 and partly graded was 60 to 65 cents per cwt., while on October 17 the same class of stock was quoted at 65 cents with a few selling at 70 cents a cwt. Early Ohios on that date were bringing 60 to 65 cents per cwt. On the whole, therefore, the Maine market appears to be slightly weaker on sacked stock this week while the Minneapolis-St. Paul market was a little stronger, but the difference is so slight that it is practically negligible.

(Wm. Stuart).

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WEEKLY POTATO BULLETIN

of

OFFICE OF HORTICULTURE

OCT 27 1928

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Greeley, Colo. Notes. October 22, 1928.

The first part of the week was rainy and cold; 1.83 inches of rain was recorded at the station. All harvesting operations of the district were suspended until the last of the week. Today, the weather is fair and warm.

Saturday, we harvested a one-acre plot of Rurals that were planted July 18. The plot yielded about 140 bushels per acre of tubers of good seed size. All potatoes at the station are now harvested and we are crowning alfalfa for next year's potato crop. The end of this week will see the potato harvest of the district near completion with practically the entire crop in storage. Potatoes are selling for from 40 to 45 cents with a few of the best grades bringing 50 cents per cwt.

(W. C. Edmundson).

Washington, D. C. Notes. October 26, 1928.

Somewhat cooler weather has prevailed this week and light frosts have been reported to have occurred in several of the city's suburbs. With the exception of a light precipitation (.11 of an inch) Tuesday afternoon and evening, the weather has been generally clear.

Late potatoes have been seriously injured by a rather severe attack of early blight which began to show up over two weeks ago. This injury coupled with the effect of the hot dry spell throughout the early part of the month, reaching its culmination about the middle of the month, will materially reduce the yield through the premature death of the plants. Weather permitting it is proposed to harvest the date of planting experiment, and the Jersey Red Skin seed plot, the latter part of next week.

Director P. F. Trowbridge, of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station reports, under date of October 17, the receipt of a barrel of Prince Edward Island Irish Cobbler seed stock which he has imported for use as foundation stock. He further states that there are a lot of potatoes still undug in his section and that storage houses are being rapidly filled. Car shipments are reported as being very light and that prices exclusive of sacks are mostly under twenty cents a bushel. Where stands were good the yield is claimed to be heavy. In the station experimental plots yields as high as 335 bushels to the acre have been obtained. Very few decayed rubers have been observed.

Dr. C. F. Clark returned to the Office yesterday, having closed up his season's work at Presque Isle, Me. Mr. P. M. Lombard who has also been at Presque Isle, Me. is expected within the next few days.

This week's issue terminates the 1928 edition of "The Eye." With its close we desire to express our sincere appreciation to those who have contributed to its pages during the season and would bespeak their continued support in 1929.

Carlot Movement.- Carlot shipments this week show some increase over last week. For the five days October 18 to 23 (exclusive of Sunday) the carlot movements were as follows:- 1013, 1084, 1194, 928 and 1102 or an average of 1064 cars per day, as against 1035 1/2 cars the preceding week.

Prices.- No material price changes have occurred during the week. If anything the price trend is slightly upward. The demand, however, is moderate to weak and no material change can be expected until all the crop is harvested. Lack of storage facilities leaves no alternative to many growers to do other than dispose of their crop at harvest time. This practice has always resulted, except in occasional seasons of low production, in glutted markets and lowered prices.

(Wm. Stuart).